

THE BOOKSELLER

A HANDBOOK OF

British and Foreign Literature.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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BY WHOM

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THE GAZETTE.

Bankrupts :—

W. and B. Bauman, and C. De Courcy, Chiswick Institution, printers, &c.

R. Robertson, Glasgow, stationer.

Insolvents :—

J. Rennie, York, bookseller and stationer.

J. E. O'Cavanagh, Essex-street, author.

C. Wright, Deansgate, Manchester, printer.

Assignments :—

J. S. Laughton, Liverpool, bookseller; *assignees*, C. Grove, gent., and J. C. Stead, accountant, Liverpool.

Dividends :—

Ridge and Jackson, Sheffield, separate of Ridge, third of 1½d.—Brewin, Sheffield.

R. H. Mason, Newcastle, newspaper proprietor, second of 1s. 2¼d.—Baker, Newcastle.

J. Thomas, Catherine-street, newspaper proprietor, second of 3d.—Whitmore.

T. Holmes, St. Paul's Church-yard, bookseller, 11 May.

J. Thorburn, Pleydell-street, bookbinder, first of 1s. 0¾d.—Whitmore.

T. Dawson, Birmingham, printer.

Dissolutions of Partnership :—

Grimwade Brothers, New Earl-street, wholesale stationers, so far as regards F. Grimwade.

TRADE CHANGES AND GOSSIP.

The commodious premises recently erected in Stationers' Hall Court will be occupied by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, & Co. shortly after Midsummer. So much counter-room and so many facilities for transacting business will be provided, that some consternation is being experienced in the Row lest this large firm, with their enormous stock, should monopolize all the London trade.

Messrs. R. Griffin & Co., of Glasgow, are about to assume a position in the Row commensurate with the extent of their business in this country, but in premises not nearly so large as their house in Glasgow. They have taken Nos. 10, 11, & 12 Ave Maria Lane, now occupied by Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall, & Co., and formerly by Westley & Davies, and Scatterd and Letterman, and the late Mr. Hughes.

Mr. Holmes, of 48, Paternoster Row, informs us that he has just disposed of the old-established business belonging to Mr. Clark, Connaught Terrace, Edgware Road, to Mr. Nudd; and has also recently sold the business of Mr. Worsten, of the Goswell Road, to Miss Day.

Two neighbours in Holborn have retired upon well-earned competencies—Mr. Thomas Allman and Mr. Thomas Bumpus. Both are succeeded in business by sons. May they long enjoy the ease and comfort they have been so many years striving for.

Mr. A. J. Barrow, of Preston, Lancashire, has succeeded to the business of Mr. H. C. Barton, printer, bookseller, and newspaper proprietor, of that town, which has been successfully carried on for eleven years.

Mr. Francis S. Wright, of Stafford, has succeeded to the business of Mr. C. Watts, of Longton, who after thirty-four years retires, we hope with a competence.

Mr. Stonfield, of Bradford, Yorkshire, has also retired upon a competence, and is succeeded by his assistant, Mr. H. Gaskarth.

Messrs. Castle & Lamb, the well-known newspaper agents have removed from their *cul-de-sac*, in Newgate Street, to commodious premises in Salisbury Square.

Mr. E. Priestley succeeds to the business of the

late Mr. Lee, of Wakefield, Mrs. Lee at the same time taking the name of Priestley.

Mr. Foreman, of Halifax, has purchased the business of Mr. Lord of that town.

Mr. J. Brook, of Huddersfield, has removed to more commodious premises in the Market-place there. Mr. Woodcock has also taken handsome premises in the Market-place, of Huddersfield.

Owing to ill-health, Mr. L. Meall, of the Quay, Great Yarmouth, has relinquished his business in favour of Messrs. Cobb. The valuation was made by Mr. Cussons, of Horncastle; and Mr. Noble, of Boston.

Mr. John Menzies, the Simpkin & Marshall of Scotland, will remove from his present premises in May, to Hanover Street, where he will have more accommodation for his rapidly increasing business.

That useful little publication *The Cottage Gardener* has migrated from the darkness of Lovell's Court to the sunny side of Fleet Street.

Mr. S. H. Sharman, of Great Baddow, having forwarded to her Majesty the Queen a copy of his recently published work, "The Relief of Lucknow, and other Poems," has just received a letter from Colonel Phipps, conveying her Majesty's gracious acceptance of the same. The volume was beautifully bound at Barritt's Bible warehouse, 173, Fleet Street, in crimson velvet, with elaborate mountings, including the monogram "V. R.," encircled by a neat design, on the cover; and altogether a most splendid specimen of binding.

THE SCOTTISH INQUISITION.—A correspondent sends us the following paragraph, cut out of the *Glasgow Penny Post*, but gives no date. Were it not for the fact of two out of the three parties named therein being subscribers, we should have imagined that the paragraph in question was about the time of the Pretender :—

"IMPORTANT TO DEALERS IN OLD BOOKS.—On Tuesday, at the Central Police Court, Mr. R. Forrester, bookseller, was charged with carrying on the business of a broker without having the licence to enable him to do so. He denied the charge, and urged that for fifty years dealers had been allowed to carry on their trade undisturbed, and therefore he could not understand how, after this lapse of time, the Court should endeavour to im-

pose such a restriction on the trade as this prosecution contemplated. Mr. J. L. Lang appeared for the defence, and, after hearing the Fiscal in regard to the charge, he proceeded to argue the law of the case. He stated that Maurice, Ogle, and Son, had on their premises at present from 30,000 to 40,000 old volumes, that Hadden in the High Street had about 50,000 volumes in his possession—in short, these gentlemen dealt almost exclusively in old books, and the hardship of imposing the contemplated restriction on them would, he was sure, ruin an important branch of literary commerce. Besides, the sections (175 and 176) of the Police Act were not applicable to Mr. Forrester, inasmuch as his business was wholly confined to one class of goods, and not to the purchase and retail of miscellaneous articles, as was indicated in the section of the act referred to. After two hours' discussion, Mr. Monro, the assessor, summed up, and signified that his opinion was, that dealers in old books came under the scope of the Glasgow Police Act. He, however, deferred giving his decision till Thursday morning. If an adverse judgment be given, the traders in old books are determined to carry the case to the High Court at Edinburgh. Mr. Monro, the assessor, after having taken the case to avizandum for some days, and having in the interim advised with the Sheriffs of Perth and Edinburgh, on Thursday decided that they do come under the act, and that they must consequently be licensed. As might be expected, the judgment of a bailie on a question affecting, as this does, a large number of persons, was not accepted as a final decision of the question, although what Mr. Monro said on Thursday appears, as Bailie Playfair remarked, entirely consistent with common sense. But common sense is not always law. We understand that Mr. Lang will apply to the High Court of Justiciary for a suspension of the finding of the magistrate."

Mr. J. H. Parker's third volume of *Domestic Architecture* is on the eve of publication. The first volume took us through musty records, and gave us an insight into Anglo-Saxon dwellings by means of mediæval illuminations. The second volume left us in the comfortable castles of the Plantagenets, but this brings the subject down to the reign of Henry VIII., when houses had become fit for Christian dwellings. Mr. Parker's previous publications have done so much for churches by reviving the true principles of Gothic architecture, and pointing out its ABC to the merest tyro, that we may soon hope to see tasteful and correctly built Gothic villas and houses in every part of the country, and the gradual decline of that composit style which has long prevailed, or, still worse, the miles of brick walls with square holes of which our Modern Babylon is composed. We hope that this will not be the last volume of the series, but that the author will carry on the work to the Jacobean period, when brick architecture appears to have reached its culminating point. Mr. Parker, we hear, has gone to Italy to investigate the history of Gothic architecture in that country, and, as he is accompanied by M. Bouet, an accomplished French artist, we may hope to see the fruits of his journey at some period or other.

The *Draper and Clothier* is announced for the end of this month. It is intended to do for fictile

ware what the BOOKSELLER does for books, and is to be upon the same model. There is plenty of scope for such a work, the field is a large one, and it will be successful if the editor will but bear in mind the advice which Apelles gave to the shoemaker.

The Rev. R. Williams, of Rhydijeroesau, has nearly completed a Cornish Dictionary, which will include a comparison of all the Celtic dialects.

Mr. Dickens's new periodical, "All the Year Round," it will be observed, makes its appearance in a few days, and as the new story, "A Tale of Two Cities," is commenced therein, we expect to hear that the demand for No. 1 is large beyond all precedent.

We are glad to see announced a collected edition of the works of the Rev. John Skinner, author of that glorious *Tullochgorum*. With that pious but somewhat jolly divine we heartily wish that Whig and Tory would for once agree to drop their Whig-mig-morum, and not put a stop to bookselling, as they have done lately; but Whig and Tory will unite on this occasion in making a "cheerfu' quorum" to welcome the promised volume.

Will our lady readers be shocked if we mention that in a forthcoming volume from one of the naughty places called universities there will be some revelations of the social evil from one of Eve's daughters, who has sounded those depths which Solomon, no doubt, from bitter experience, inveighed against so bitterly? Yet "out of the depths" in question arises a voice which, if we mistake not, will do more to deter young men and young women too than all the homilies preached on any one Sunday in the year. Without sermonising, the preacher will deliver a sermon that will find a response in every heart not utterly degraded.

Mr. Timbs requests us to state that the second volume of "Things not generally Known familiarly Explained" will be ready by the middle of next month (May). The first volume of this popular work has attained a sale of 23,000 copies.

In our number for January we gave a copy of the very modest announcement issued respecting a periodical to be called the *Literary Record*, which was to differ as much from all existing works as "chalk does from cheese." We thought the idea had dropped, but find it announced to appear on the 1st of May. The *Morning Star* states that the editor is to be Mr. Passmore Edwards, the same gentleman, we believe, who compiled the "Literary and Educational Year Book."

Mr. Pamplin, of Frith Street, forwards an interesting catalogue of books, printed anterior to the end of the fifteenth century, which collectors of black-letter lore will find deserving of notice. The annotations, which accompany every book, are quite models of perspicuity and good taste, evincing considerable acquaintance with such works and their authors. We are not at this moment aware whether any charge has been put upon it, but in any case would recommend all young bibliopoles to possess themselves of a copy, if they can procure it, and hence learn how a catalogue should be made if they wish to interest buyers.

RELIGIOUS TRADING SOCIETIES.—Like others, the BOOKSELLER does not like doing a disagreeable thing, and consequently puts it off as long as possible. Now, one of the most disagreeable things any one can do, is to speak evil of a society intended to promote religious purposes, or to disseminate religious truth. Yet such societies in their corporate capacities are no better than others, and have neither souls to be saved, nor posteriors to be accelerated by an application of shoe-leather. They can in their said capacity do things which private tradesmen would not venture upon, and they also at times pursue such practices as would and could only end in disgrace and bankruptcy, if amenable to the ordinary business code. If we say aught against the Bible Society, or the Tract Society, or the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, some estimable person would get up, and, referring to his own unblemished conduct, at once consign us to the only place fit for accusers of the brethren. Let us suppose the most saintly member of the bench of bishops whose name may grace the list of members of the three societies named above, now before us, and we, with all due reverence, putting such questions as the following:—Would your lordship consider Christian knowledge best diffused by means of a breach of the eighth commandment? Would you, my lord, in your private capacity consider it scriptural to apply the funds of the society to your own private advantage? to apply the same funds to the purposes of robbing honest tradesmen? to obtain those funds for mere purposes of trade under the pretence of their being required for charitable and pious uses? or would your lordship recommend the society to go as close to the wind as possible, and if they should occasionally be caught tripping, to pay a large sum and have it hushed up? If such questions were asked, will our readers just imagine the form every hair on his lordship's wig would assume, how at the bare mention of such sins each and every several hair would struggle to become perpendicular. Yet such practices have taken place. We will not now specify when or where, but they have not yet ceased. We intended to mention some things connected with several societies, but as such statements are liable to be misunderstood, or be considered as reflecting upon the secretaries or managers, who are generally very estimable men, and most of them more or less personal acquaintances, we think we shall do better to draw attention thus broadly to some things we consider evils, and if they be so considered by others leave them to their own modes and times of finding a remedy.

We have had so much occasion to find fault with the "Christian Knowledge Society" and its doings that a word from us in its praise will seem unusual; but we can in this instance freely give it, for pursuing a course which appears to be within its own line, by producing a *Concordance* which appears to be a very creditable work, and to possess some advantages to Churchmen over that of Cruden. This bulky volume, printed in good type, omits Cruden's definitions and contains a concordance to the Prayer-Book version of the Psalms. Owing to some perversity or unintelligible reason the concordance to the Apocrypha

is placed after that of the New Testament. The price, too, is a fair one. Why does the venerable society just named persist in publishing such books as "British Flowering Plants." To this they have now added a volume on Grasses. Have they any spite against the botanist Sowerby that they must thus invade his special domain with works having no more to do with the promotion of Christian knowledge than the pavement of Great Queen Street has with that of the heavenly Jerusalem.

The *Church of England Book Hawking Society* is one that deserves praise for its liberal management, and which, while promoting the objects of its supporters, does so without in any way interfering with the business of tradesmen. Its object is this:—in many large districts there are no booksellers, no stocks of books for people to choose from, and the only publications to be seen are such that any religious person would dislike. To remedy this a society has been formed, of which H.R.H. the Prince Consort is the patron; this society is willing to encourage local societies who provide a hawker and a stock of books—the hawker takes these books round to all the villages and out-of-the-way places in a certain district and sells the books at the regular prices. Each local society chooses its own publications, which are ordered of Messrs. Aylott & Son, Paternoster Row. The list of books used by the various associations is a very large one, and every publisher appears to furnish something. The hawker is to all intents and purposes a bookseller, and the books placed upon the Society's lists are not supplied to members at trade prices: thus books of the best kinds are diffused, the people are benefited, and the fair trader not injured.

The Society state that there is still a want of good books upon the following subjects, which they will be happy to find any publisher willing to produce:—

- A really plain Commentary on the Four Gospels, cheap.
- County Histories, cheap and interesting.
- A Good Letter-writer (for the lower classes).
- Secular Reading Book, large type (suitable for Adults in Night Schools).
- Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, very large type, without Notes or Illustrations; common paper.
- A really simple Child's Geography.
- Good Cottage Prints upon Secular subjects, coloured, at from 3d. to 6d. each.
- Cheap Frames for Cottage Prints, Sacred and Secular.

Books on the following subjects wanted; written in simple language, but in a lively style, illustrated with good clear cuts and maps, and should not exceed 1s.

The Gold Fields
The Electric Telegraph
The Railway
Burning Mountains
Comets
The Air
What are Heat and Light?
The Tides of the Ocean
Cotton—its Growth and Manufacture
Iron Mines and Iron Works
Animals—sorted
How does Food Nourish?
The Polar Regions
The Regions under the Line
New Zealand—as it was and is

Waterloo and its Consequences
Old London and New. (Some Contrasts.)
St. Petersburg in Winter
French Revolution (Scenes from)
Washington
America Discovered
The Invention of Printing
The Crust of the Earth
Earth's Inhabitants before Adam
Socrates the good Heathen
The Heroes of the Greeks
The Destruction of the Jews

Good striking Tales on these subjects:—

Fairs and Wakes; Statute Fairs; Respect for Parents; Reverence in Church.

Household Tracts, or Homely Words for Young Men, with some such Titles as—

How to be Merry and Wise; How to be a Credit to one's Friends; How to Make Home Happy; How to Pull Through in Hard Times.

CANADIAN IMPORT DUTIES ON BOOKS.—While in England we are doing all that is possible to free the trade in books from all unnecessary restrictions, and believe that if the Government offered at this time to let in foreign books free of duty there would not be a single voice raised in opposition, we are sorry to see that in British North America there is not only a contrary feeling, but a heavy duty has already been levied. The reasons against it are so weighty and so well expressed in the following petition from the booksellers of Canada and Montreal, that we print it *in extenso* :

To his Excellency the Governor-General the Hon. the Legislative Council, and the Hon. the Legislative Assembly.

The petition of the undersigned booksellers of Toronto, humbly sheweth :

That your petitioners desire to draw the attention of your Honourable House to that part of the proposed tariff relative to books, which, if it should become law, would throw the book business in Canada back many years.

That the population of Canada being small, and composed of two races, speaking different languages, the circulation of books is necessarily limited, and requires fostering from your Honourable House rather than taxation.

That the article of books (with the exception of a few school books) cannot be manufactured in this province to pay, even were English, French, and American publications prohibited. In proof of this we would venture to assert that with scarcely an exception no book on law, medicine, history, biography, poetical, or the mechanical arts, written and published in Canada, has ever paid the author and publisher for the labour and capital expended upon it, much less yielded a profit; the few which have been to some extent successful having been of only local interest, and if not published here, would not have appeared at all.

The school books (for which there is a large circulation) are published here as cheap as the same class of books can be imported from either England or the United States, proving clearly that Canadian publishers do not require protection.

That your Honourable House has given annual grants to educational establishments, public libraries, &c., in order to create and foster a taste for literature, whereas imposing a duty on books would increase their price, and greatly retard their circulation.

That in the Province of Newfoundland, Prince Edward's Island, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, books are admitted duty free—and they trust that Canada will not be the first to impose a tax on the spread of knowledge.

That the collection of a duty would operate to the breaking up of the legitimate bookselling trade in Canada, and would tend to throw it into the hands of the frontier booksellers of the United States. The more intelligent of our population visit the United States so frequently, that they would be induced to supply themselves in the cheapest market; besides the book-post would then become a positive injustice to the trade. And, moreover, that the superintendents of education having the privilege of importing books free, it would result that they would supply all the schools, mechanics institutes, and public libraries, which would still further tend to ruin the bookseller's business, without adding to the revenue of the Province.

That your petitioners feel confident that it is only necessary to call the attention of your Honourable House to this matter, and pray that a law which would be found injurious to the true interests of all sections of the Province may not be passed.

No attention was paid to these remonstrances, but the *Publishers' Circular* states that the duty has been imposed: "Printed Books, 10 per cent. *ad valorem*; Bibles, Prayer Books, Testaments, and Devotional Books, free; Prints, Engravings, Photographs, &c. 10 per cent.; Maps, Charts, and Atlases, 10 per cent.; Paper and other Stationery, 20 per cent.; Philosophical Instruments and Globes, free. The bill was hurried through at railroad speed, being read in

the Upper House three times in succession at one sitting, and the tariff came into operation on the 28th ultimo. Our Montreal correspondent alludes to the measure and its effects so much to the purpose that we quote his remarks:—"We used to boast of our country being among the most liberal towards literature, but with such a tariff as this feel heartily ashamed. Last year we fought off a threatened duty of 5 per cent. on books, and when that Inspector-General resigned, and the present one, Mr. Galt (a son of the author of 'Annals of the Parish,' &c.) succeeded, we thought literature safe, but are miserably disappointed. A vast amount of smuggling of American books will ensue, but all English books will have to pay. The cheap American magazines and novels will remain the same as before, but the better class of books, and all English books, must be raised in price. Upon good books 10 per cent. *ad valorem* is the heaviest duty in the civilised world." That such a monstrous state of things can be allowed to continue passes our belief.

UNDERSELLING.—We promised to say a few words on this difficult and vexed subject, but can say little more than has already been said by our able correspondents. That it is an evil, all, even they who offend most deeply, will admit; but what is the remedy is not so clear. If it could be carried out, we believe the plan acted upon by Messrs. Rivington would be the very best, as that effectually prevents the obnoxious reduction; but the general unpopularity of this plan has been such that no other house has ventured to adopt it. A variety of other plans have been suggested, but any one would be useless unless the trade generally would give it their hearty assent and consent. To revive the defunct association is clearly impossible, and to organize a new one that should put forward any rules is equally so at the present time; but as all are agreed that something should be done, we would not wish the trade to let the matter drop. Our recommendation, therefore, would be to organize an association of booksellers and stationers throughout the country—that a committee be formed in London, and that every town in the kingdom form others, who should periodically report to the London association—that each should meet quarterly, or oftener, for the purpose of deliberation and the promotion of unity. Eventually, a committee of retail booksellers, and one of the wholesale trade, might be formed, and the two unitedly draw up rules for the observance of the trade. During the time such an association was being formed, the principles of free-trade in books, trade allowances, the retailer's claim upon the publisher for protection, the publisher's right to demand of the trade not to sell his publications under the fixed price, and questions of a like nature could be discussed or, as it is termed, ventilated. Such an association would be useful in many respects, and very frequently might do good service to the cause of literature; if it were in existence now, it could, for instance, raise its voice against the unjust, impolitic, and ill-considered impost which the Canadian parliament has fixed upon English books. We can only add that this is a booksellers' question; and if anything is to be done, it must be done by themselves. Our column will, to any reasonable extent, be open to the trade, and we shall be happy to recommend any well-considered plan.

THE BOOKSELLERS' PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—The Twenty-second Annual Report of this Institution has now been issued, from which we learn that one honorary and twenty other members were admitted during the year; that the sum invested in the funds amounts to £22,412, and that £948 19s. 3d. was expended in relief amongst 6 retail booksellers; 22 assistants; 1 widow of a wholesale, and 6 retail booksellers; 15 widows of assistants, and to 1 orphan child. Amongst sixteen persons in the list, not less a sum than £5,384 has been divided in 1858 and preceding years. A well-deserved compliment is paid to Mr. Brown for his kindness to the past and present members of the Retreat at Abbott's Langley.

With an Association holding out such inducements, with so large a sum invested, and funds so liberally dispensed, and we may add so economically administered, it might be supposed that every assistant in the trade would be glad to join it, and that every wealthy member of the trade would willingly contribute. Yet such is far from the case—the numbers of both who join it every year are very small; that there is some prejudice against it is clear. One reason is urged in a letter from an assistant, in this month's *BOOKSELLER*; whether this reason be just or unjust some one connected with the institution may perhaps say. One case of a deceased member was mentioned to us, and commented upon in very strong terms; we took the trouble of investigating this, and found not only that there was no truth in the accusation, but that if the institution could be in any way blamed, it would be for too much liberality under the special circumstances of the case.

A correspondent of the *American Publishers' Circular* suggests the formation of a union of the trade, for the purpose of promoting amongst the young men a knowledge and love of their profession. Amongst the suggestions are the following:

"A systems of rewards shall be offered to meritorious booksellers' clerks who shall have served at least seven years at the trade—five years in one house—and shall be able to pass an examination which shall embrace a knowledge of books, in all the various departments, based upon bibliographical works, such as 'Trübner's Guide to American Literature,' 'Roobach's Catalogue,' and such European catalogues as may be deemed advisable.

"Awards may be made, or diplomas given, to any or all booksellers who shall have acquired such a knowledge of books as shall entitle them to the same after examination by a board of examiners, which may be appointed by the executive committee in any city, composed only of members of the association.

"A fund accruing from annual memberships or life memberships shall be created for the payment of necessary expenses. A diploma, engraved in superb manner, shall be awarded as the first prize to regular booksellers who shall apply for the same and pass the examination required. A diploma and gold medal to the highest standard of excellence for young clerks. A diploma only, to second class of applicants, for special knowledge in particular departments. The committee may award superb editions of works in this department.

"It shall be the duty of all members of the association to urge upon their clerks the importance of endeavouring to obtain the diploma of the association; and all members should offer to clerks having the certificate of character with the diploma such extra salaries as shall render it really necessary for a book clerk in this country to have such diploma before he can obtain a respectable salary."

With such an association as that proposed above, the *American Publishers' Circular* would hardly venture to say that "the first almanac in England was printed at Oxford in 1673: 'There were,' says Wood, 'near 30,000 of them printed, besides a sheet almanac for twopence that was printed for that year; and because of the novelty

of the said almanac, and its title, they were all vended: its sale was so great that the Society of Booksellers in London bought off the copy for the future, in order to engross the profits in their own hands." The merest tyro we imagined knew better; the almanac referred to was Maurice Wheeler's "Oxford Almanack," and the opposition of the Stationers' Company arose from the sale of this interfering with the profits of their own. For this very year 1673 we have a volume containing Lilly's, Gadbury's, the Episcopal, Saunders', Andrews', the Loudon, Coelson's, Bowker's, Tanner's, and Poor Robin's, all printed for the Stationers' Company, also Swan's & Dove's printed at Cambridge by John Hayes, the University Printer. Where could our American contemporary have gleaned his information?

From the last number of the *American Publishers' Circular*, we also extract the following advertisement of Mr. Rollo, who desires notoriety, and who, a few weeks since, in order to make a little noise in the world, let off thirty guns in front of his house:—

"TO THE LITERARY AND PUBLISHING WORLD.—In retiring from my old school-book publishing firm, and establishing a new business at No. 29, Park Row, I desire to be understood by the public. One reason for this change is, that my friends and customers who purchased their bills in good faith for home markets have been impoverished by the antagonistic system of rivalry in the publication and introduction of school-books. Agents were to be found in almost every city, town, and village on the continent, forcing into notoriety the works of their different publishers, all of which were represented as the *model school-books*. I am heartily tired of all this humbug and nonsense, and I cannot be true to myself and be associated with it any longer. It is too much of a patent medicine business for educational publishers. I leave it to devote myself to the publication of literature and books which belong to this new electric age, and I look for a trade mark significant of my business. The anchor and dolphin intertwined constitute Pickering's mark in London. I wanted a distinctive trade mark, indicating strength and life, and I incorporate the ship—the American merchantman or clipper, all of whose hieroglyphical emblems may be seen at No. 29, Park Row. I want them for their teachings, for business, and to make men think. Our great American publishers are issuing educational books, and all the emanations of the genius of former times. This is the highest order of trade and commerce. We are booksellers; then give us the higher order of commercial hieroglyphics to incorporate as a trade mark. I find it only in the ship, and I use it in my title page, as a beacon for the reader as reliable as the north star. When I put the ship on the title-page it means integrity to the reader, as the north star means integrity and safety to the mariner when it was hung in the heavens. The hook shall not teach your children infidelity or licentiousness, or your servants to cut your throats while sleeping."

From the *Booksellers' Medium* we learn in addition that Mr. Rollo's shop is arranged in thoroughly nautical style.

When English publishers reprint anything from an American source, we would recommend them to be careful of infringing English copyrights. An eminent religious firm in London recently made a mistake this way, and had to pay the original publisher something considerable for making use of his property.

Those who are interested in University and Middle Class Education will like to see the *Occasional Papers* which Messrs. Macmillan are publishing. Two numbers at 1s. each have appeared, and others are to follow. Local Examinations, the Law Tripos, Civil Service, Clerical Education, Practical Science, and a variety of similar subjects, are treated of by well-known writers whose names are appended, and at the end of each number will be found some university intelligence.

Some years ago a member of one of our universities put forth a work "On the Motions of Rigid Bodies,"—very learned and very unreadable beyond the title, which was a happy one. Learned bodies are generally rigid ones also, but rigid bodies do move at times, and even Oxford, the most rigid of all bodies, is infected. Who would believe that this learned body would be entering the field of popular serial literature, and with the most popular of all books too? Yet such is the case. We have now on our table a specimen part of one of the most elegantly printed Bibles the Clarendon Press, celebrated as it is, has ever produced, with three steel plate engravings, for three shillings. It is in royal, or rather, imperial quarto size, printed in "English" type, with Dr. Blaney's marginal references, and is to be completed in twelve parts. From the same press we have also a 32mo Church Service, a handy pocket volume, printed in very large type, the same size type as the *Times'* leaders; this, bound in French morocco, with gilt edges and metal rims and clasp, may be obtained from any bookseller in the country for 4s. 6d.—in this form it is a marvel of compactness and cheapness.

Moving in a world of its own, and apparently not much known beyond it, is the *Literary Churchman*, one of the few learned publications of the day. When compared with the shallowness of most modern criticism, it is refreshing to see learned reviews of learned works anywhere. The latest number of this fortnightly work contains a review of Dr. Lagarde's "Hypolytus," by a writer who appears familiar with Syriac and half a dozen other languages—a thoughtful article on "Errors in Education"—a choice bit of Biblical criticism—articles on "Incestuous Marriages"—Hymn Books—and several polemical subjects. The High Church tone of the work is perhaps against it; but as we forget the rationalism of the *National Review* when we read an Article upon Sir Bulwer Lytton, so do we cease to remember High or Low Church views in reading this article upon "Hypolytus."

Mudie's Library, although an eyesore to many booksellers, has been so liberally conducted, the young men have been so civil and obliging, and so much patronage has been bestowed upon it, that it has almost taken rank as a public institution, and we feel at liberty to offer an expostulation respecting a practice which appears to be on the increase—viz., an arbitrary rejection of books. As a merely private library, the proprietor has a perfect right to reject any he may think proper; but when we hear, as we have done from several quarters, that books of which not a line has been seen have been refused admission, as improper for the library, we would urge that such objections would come better from subscribers than from the proprietor. As a matter of business, we have neither the right nor the inclination to interfere with Mr. Mudie, and only offer this suggestion in perfect good-will towards his library, of which, with thousands of others, we have made frequent use.

Messrs. Routledge inform the trade that they have been appointed "sole London agents for the supply of Collins's editions of the Irish school-books."

The Law Courts have had some employment during the month—*Bradbury v. Dickens*, respecting the *Household Words*, which Mr. Dickens will discontinue at the end of May, but which Messrs. Bradbury, who hold one-fourth share of, and are one out of three proprietors, wish to continue contrary to the wishes of Mr. Dickens and Mr. Wills.—Next it has been decided that although the skins of animals may be made into parchment, the hair must not be made into a somewhat similar material unless it pay duty as paper. The judges have been as diffuse upon the question of "What is Paper?" as the currency doctors on the question of "What is a Pound?"—Lastly, the proprietors of *Bell's Life in London*, alarmed at the success of a penny rival, have tried to stop the circulation of the *Penny Bell's Life*.

One of the favourite games of boyhood used to be playing at French and English; in this the latter always conquered: the same is now being played with books. Routledge brought out a Shilling Soyer's Cookery, which beat all the world. Now the redoubtable Alexis has in turn been beaten by another shilling book from the same prolific house—and the modern champion is no other than our old acquaintance Mrs. Rundell, whose early love for the neighbourhood of Ludgate Hill appears to have revived.

Amongst the successful books of the season we must include "Men who have Risen;" the first impression of which has already been exhausted. The publishers, Messrs. Hogg & Son, it will be observed, announce a companion work for girls; also the two concluding volumes of De Quincey—which, we hope, will only be preparatory to an additional collection.

Mr. W. Allan forwards a literary gem in the shape of one of F. Didot's editions of Virgil, elegantly printed with red border lines, and illustrated with a number of photographic vignettes. We have never seen anything more perfect in its way.

We hope our subscribers will not think we are growing political if we quote the following *morceau* from a Kirkcaldy correspondent: "There has been some great fun, even in Kirkcaldy, with a Mr. Harcourt, a contributor to the *Saturday Review*, who is contesting that burgh. The *Scotsman* fell foul of him at first, not knowing exactly who he was, and consequently made a few blunders, which Mr. Harcourt made the most of. The reply of the *Scotsman* was first-rate, but not to be compared with the rejoinder of Mr. Harcourt. In short, this is the first time the *Scotsman* has been completely beaten at his own weapons. Mr. Harcourt has completely won over the rascal mob with his blarney, and is splendidly received everywhere; while his opponent, who has represented the burgh comfortably for eighteen years, can scarcely get a hearing. Mr. Harcourt has no chance of success, I believe, which I think is a great pity; we would not grudge such a clever, impudent, plucky chap one of our nomination burghs."

"Adam Bede," by George Eliot, the novel of the season, has, we observe, reached a second edition. The greatest curiosity is manifested as to who is the author of the book, it being very well understood that George Eliot is a *nom de plume*. The Rev. H. Anders, rector of Kirby, has written to

the *Times* that the author is a Mr. Joseph Liggins of Nuneaton, Warwickshire. This has called forth a reply from the author, who still signs himself George Eliot, thus asserting his intention of retaining his *incognito*, denying that Mr. Joseph Liggins had anything to do with the work, or knew anything of it previous to its publication, and claiming his or her right (for there seems a pretty general impression that the author must be a woman) to keep the authorship a secret if so minded.

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT-SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND.—A North Briton has some satisfaction in informing us that the Glasgow branch of this society for the sale of books has proved a complete failure, and that they have given up their large premises in Queen Street and retired to a small shop, where their transactions will be confined to the sale of tracts. He wishes he could see any prospect of making a similar announcement with reference to the Edinburgh establishment, which has proved a serious opponent to several of our retailers. "It is really too bad that the legitimate trader, who gives his time and his money to the business, should be opposed by a society which depends solely for its power of injuring him on the contributions of the religious public. If such societies confined themselves to the sale of their own publications, we can answer for it their competition would not be feared."

THE BIBLE BARROW.—Retail bookselling has met with a new opponent here during the present month, whom we willingly hand over to the tender mercies of the retailer who held forth so dolefully

in our last number on the state and prospects of the trade in Edinburgh. "Agreeably to advertisement, a clean, comfortable, rosy-faced individual, calling himself William Hunter, colporteur, made his appearance in the streets with a covered barrow, surmounted by poles, to which are attached, at irregular intervals, small wooden squares, with texts of Scripture painted on them; the cover of the barrow is shelved to accommodate Bibles and Testaments of different sizes. We are not aware whether the speculation is the harrowman's own, or whether our Tract Society, or some eccentric philanthropist be at the bottom of it; nor can we speak of the success of the venture; but there can be no doubt that the pleasant, fussy-looking colporteur and his gaily painted barrow are agreeable additions to the array of cheese, herring, and fruit barrows, with their dirty owners, which crowd our High Street."

We notice a paragraph in the *Critic* which pretends to give the sum which Sir E. Bulwer Lytton will get for his last novel, and which it sets down at the comfortable sum of £15,000. We are also told that the last issue of the book was 5,000 copies. We are not going to deny these statements because we are better informed, but both figures are so ridiculously large that we cannot but feel surprised that a journal of any character would be found giving them currency. Statistics of this kind are not likely to find their way into the public prints with the concurrence of the only parties interested, which is rarely the case. When such gossip happens to be true, its publicity is generally the result of a breach of confidence.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE BOOKSELLERS' PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.

To the Editor of the Bookseller.

SIR,—Your last number, in reference to the annual meeting of the Booksellers' Provident Institution, mentions the fact of few new members joining the institution, and that it appears to be in bad odour with the trade. Now, sir, a provident institution to be as useful as it is intended to be should never be in bad odour, but hold out every possible inducement to the members of the trade to join it.

I am an assistant at a publishing house and am constantly coming in contact with the trade assistants in my "subscribing" visits, and I have been repeatedly told that the "institution" is of too inquisitorial a character to secure the support of the majority of the assistants. If a young man wishes to join the Institution, he naturally inquires what benefits it holds out to him should sickness or any other adversity come upon him, and he finds, on looking at the rules, that he must apply to the Board of Directors, who refer his case to the Relief Committee, whose duty it is to visit the applicant at his home, and personally note his mode of living, style of furniture, &c.; inquire if he has any private means, or if his wife has any income, or his children old enough to earn anything; and if all these inquiries are answered to the satisfaction of these gentlemen, they recommend the applicant as deserving of relief. Now, sir, it doubtless often happens that an

assistant, with his eighty or ninety pounds a year salary, finds himself overtaken with illness, or from misfortune, loss of situation; but if he has, or his wife has, in her own right, a little fund in the savings' bank, or a little income which, added to the salary, enables them to live in contentment, he must not only lay all his private affairs before the relief gentlemen, but I am very much misinformed if he would not be required to live on the private means which help, when in a situation, to make up a living for his family, before he could expect any assistance from the Provident Institution. Instead of claiming, as a *right*, temporary assistance (having paid his subscriptions and maintained a correct character for morality and honesty), he must beg, and expose all his private affairs to certain men of his own trade; and it depends entirely on those men, who *may be* (I do not say or insinuate that they are, but there is nothing to check them from being) prejudiced against an applicant. Of course steps must be taken to prevent dishonest members from obtaining that assistance which is intended only for the provident and honest man; but I think that members should be in a position to *claim* assistance rather than to undergo the painful system of *espionage* they now are subject to.

The Artists have their Amicable Fund, and after paying their subscriptions a certain number

of years—five, I believe—are *entitled*, on becoming incapacitated for work by temporary illness, to a weekly allowance of sums varying from £1 to £1 15s; medical certificates, duly attested, and a friendly visit from a committee-man to see that illness is *really* the cause, is all that is needed by the Society. Use your influence, sir, to establish an “Amicable Fund” for our trade, or let the Provident Institution relax its rules, and offer greater advantages to its members, and I venture to assert large numbers of the trade will join, with whom it is now in “bad odour.” Many old members have said that they regret having joined it, for they would be ashamed to ask for temporary assistance, should they unfortunately need it, under the present “spying” system.

I might add other reasons for the trade not joining this society, but have already trespassed too much on your space.

Commending the subject to your consideration, I remain, sir, yours obediently,

A PUBLISHER'S ASSISTANT.

London, E.C., 30 March.

UNDERSELLING IN IRELAND.

Sir,—The Conservative members of the trade have good reason to be grateful to you for the interest you have excited respecting the practice of underselling. It is their duty, now that the matter has been opened up, to expose the unfairness of the principle, to be unanimous in their condemnation of it, and endeavour in the best manner possible to have a restraint put upon those who are its supporters.

Reform is the order of the day. And while the integrity of our constitution is imperilled by the democratic notions of the so-called champions of the rights of men, it is to be feared that our bookselling trade is being rapidly despoiled of its respectability by the radical practices of some of its members, who excuse themselves on the plea that they have a perfect right to do whatsoever they will with their own. While there is an opportunity, therefore, of saving ourselves from being reduced to the alternative of adopting a hated system, or retiring from business prematurely, let it be seized and acted upon at once, or else this fitful outbreak of pent-up grievances but exposes the impotency of those who desire, as it were, a trade conservatism, and strengthens the opposition of the upholders of the cheap nuisance.

I have been led to make these observations from a remark made in your last number respecting the absence of complaints from Ireland, from which you inferred that bookselling appeared to be stagnant in this country. Wrong as the premisses are, the conclusion is perfectly correct. The grievance is felt here quite as much as in England or Scotland, and perhaps more so. It would be interesting to trace the gradual decline of bookselling in this country during the last twenty years, though it would be a painful reminiscence to the veteran trader who has lived to see his favourite business reduced to its present low state, both in the estimation of the trade and the public. The former things have, however, passed away, and bookselling and publishing are not likely to regain their former dignity soon again. But in order to preserve the former branch from sinking into utter disregard, it beboves the Dublin trade to exhibit

some activity, and manifest a desire of co-operating with their English friends in this matter of reform. They deserve to suffer if they remain in their present apathetic state, viewing the discussion in your columns with a sort of dreamy interest, as if they were totally unconcerned in the result.

But the fact of the matter is this: for several years past, underselling has been the rule in almost every establishment; it has become, as it were, constitutional in the trade. Some years ago an effort was made to check the increasing evil, but, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the project failed, and I suppose that according to the nature of things, the failure was an additional incentive to the cheap men to “go ahead.” Since that time no steps have been taken to stem the flood, and now, no matter how old and respectable an establishment may be, if the proprietor has any desire to retain his customers, he must stoop to become a party in a greater or less degree to the underselling system.

The evils of which your Edinburgh Retail correspondent complains exist in a more aggravated form in Dublin. In the cheap shops here a person will get 20 per cent. (and sometimes more) off any new book. Now the public can't or do not wish to appreciate the difficulties which beset an establishment that is obliged to give long credit and discount besides, much less to sympathise with the aggrieved bookseller. They think that if one house can afford to sell books so cheaply, every other house ought to do the same, and not that they are dealing unfairly; and the conclusion arrived at in their own minds is that “cheap” shops are cheats. But when one deducts the expenses of carriage (which from London is considerable), and other expenses, competition with cheap shops is out of the question.

The plan lately introduced of sending books from 1s. and upwards post free, while it is advantageous in some instances, is, on the whole, very pernicious. The public know that on large and expensive books the usual discount gives a greater reduction than the free postage, and they accordingly prefer paying the postage. The disadvantages of this system are apparent when applied to cheap and bulky volumes and periodicals.

Such, then, being the difficulties under which the Dublin trade are labouring, is it any wonder that the spirit of opposition has been quelled, that bookselling has deteriorated, and the publishers become spiritless. Nor will it remain in this state; it will rather go from bad to worse until our “once respectable profession” is reduced to the vulgar level of a low competitive trade. Let such a catastrophe be avoided if possible. For that business which has hitherto—from the intelligence, spirit, and high principles of its members—been worthy to be the medium of disseminating our noble and matchless literature all over the world, deserves to be carried on in its integrity and saved from the indignities which threaten it by the unprincipled practices of reckless adventurers.—I am, &c., A RETAILER'S ASSISTANT.

Dublin, March, 1859.

UNDERSELLING.

Dear Sir,—In common with all well-meaning members of the trade, I beg to tender my sincere thanks for the able manner in which you have

organized an attack upon the ruinous and cruel system of underselling. The wail of sorrow which has reached you from all parts of the country is sufficient to show that the trade are most decidedly averse to the system: rational men must know that, if the evil is allowed to go on increasing at the rapid pace which it has maintained for the last few years, it must inevitably bring ruin on all concerned; and it is evident from the eagerness with which they have responded to your call that they have only been waiting for an opportunity to free themselves from it. Hitherto they have not had the courage to speak out in their own behalf; but now that the subject is again brought prominently under their notice it should not be allowed to relapse into a continuation of the evil.

The majority of your readers will doubtless remember the battle that took place in 1852 between the Combination of Publishers* on the one hand, and Mr. John Chapman and a few retail booksellers on the other, and which resulted in the defeat of the former, and unrestricted liberty being given to every person in the trade to conduct business according to his own principles, and profit (?) or loss. All praise is due to Mr. Chapman and Messrs. Bickers & Co. for the courage with which they resisted such powerful antagonists, and for the energy they displayed in vindicating the *true* principles of free-trade, against what was, in the words of Mr. Gladstone, "a combination, alike in principle unjust, and in practice injurious," and whose regulations were characterized by Lord Campbell and the other learned arbiters as "*prima facie* indefensible, and contrary to the freedom which ought to prevail in commercial transactions." Mr. Chapman and his party won the battle, and what were termed the "excessive profits" of the trade were, in future, if the trader pleased, to be divided with the public.

Did the conquerors foresee the effects of their victory? They knew, no doubt, that there never was a low-priced trader in any business but there might be found a lower one; but perhaps—(although Mr. Chapman, in his capacity of Westminster Reviewer, affects to sneer at the so-called "respectability" of the trade)—they thought that a sense of respect for their own rights would not allow them to go beyond the conventional twopence in the shilling discount. Sir, did they imagine for a moment that in this year of grace, 1859, a book published in the morning at 2s. would be ticketed the same afternoon in a bookseller's shop, not a hundred yards from the Row, at 18s., as is actually the case with the reissue of the *Encyclopædia Britannica*; or suppose they had been informed that the upshot of their "freedom" would be portrayed on a bill in a retail bookseller's window in the City, impudently and cruelly setting forth that "the booksellers' discount is given to the purchaser of a single book," flanked on one side with a new edition of "The Crescent and the Cross," published at 5s., offered at 3s. 9d.; and on the other, with Currer Bell's novels, published at 2s. 6d., offered at 1s. 10d.! These figures are

no fiction; and, for your satisfaction, I enclose the addresses where they can be seen.

The writer of this had occasion to be in Manchester some twelve months since, and while there Brock's "Havelock" was published. Several of the principal booksellers were prepared with large window bills announcing its publication shortly at 2s. 11d. But how delighted they must have been to see, fully a week before the arrival of copies, an advertisement in the public papers that, on publication, it would be sold at 2s. 8d., and that by two of the first houses in Manchester! As a general rule, the public will not give 1s. for 11d.; and it is presumed that, in order to avoid having their stock left on hand, the other booksellers had to succumb, and sell for 2s. 8d. what in all probability, after reckoning carriage from London, advertising, commission, &c., would cost them at the very lowest calculation 2s. 10d. Your Edinburgh correspondent quotes Sir William Hamilton's Lectures as an instance of the evil in that city; in that case, the Scotch dealers leave a small margin between themselves and the public; in the above cases even that small margin is done away with. And is this suicidal work done, as the victors of 1852 fondly hoped that they were striving, for the benefit of the public? We are bound to say that it is not. The principal motive, and the one generally assigned is, enmity towards fellow tradesmen; not, of course, publicly, but in secret. No intention in the world to put money in the purse of the public, but an intense desire to ruin each his neighbour; and I have no hesitation in saying that nine-tenths of the present ruinous competition is, in reality, for no other reason.

Taking these few instances, I would ask, Did the "free-trade" advocates of 1852 foresee all this? I must charitably suppose they did not.

But where is the remedy for this great disease to be found? "A Subscriber," in your last number, suggests a species of combination among publishers which seems, to me, to carry impracticability on the face of it. The system of your correspondent, if adopted, would at once place the trade under the same thralldom from which they formerly had so much trouble to rid themselves; and differences must arise in its working that would render its legitimate operation almost an impossibility. After the summary defeat of 1852, it would be too much to expect the publishers to take up the cudgels again in behalf of the retail trade; and, properly considered, in my opinion,—except in cases where publishers have retail counters—it is a difference that can only be settled by the retail trade themselves.

I know several instances where, as a general rule, publishers will not sell a book under its published price to a private person on any account whatever, and am convinced that no opposition on their part need be feared.

I would suggest, in company with your Edinburgh correspondent, that the second hand trade be confined exclusively to its own province. The evil which it does to the new-book trade by enabling the dealers to make up the loss on one article by taking advantage of an unbeatable profit which can be made upon another, is well known.

Let the retail trade form themselves into an association of protection; and let them, by the powers of moral and legal suasion, endeavour to bring the refractory members of a still respectable

* Our correspondent is not correct in calling the Protection Society a "Combination of Publishers"—it was a combination of wholesale and retail booksellers and of publishers, the gentlemen most actively engaged, if we remember aright, being Mr. Murray, Mr. W. Longman, Mr. J. H. Parker, Mr. Bain, and Mr. Olivier. The chief opponents being Messrs. J. W. Parker and Son, Mr. Chapman, Mr. C. Knight, and Messrs. Bickers and Bush.

trade to a full sense of evil which they are doing to others, without the slightest comparative good to themselves. Why should the retail booksellers not organize themselves into an association similar to that of the publishers in 1852? It has always been my opinion that the violent opposition which it met with, and which finally overpowered it, was not engendered by the terms of its regulations, for they were reasonable enough, but by the harsh and coercive measures which were adopted for their enforcement.

Your excellent BOOKSELLER is now *the* journal of the trade, and I have the pleasure of informing you that, in my neighbourhood, its opinions, information, and general management, are very highly appreciated—your claims upon the gratitude of the trade are already acknowledged, and, in the event of accomplishing this most desirable object, or even in slightly abating it, they will be unbounded.

Again thanking you for your interference on our behalf, and wishing you every success,

I am, Dear Sir, Your obedient servant,
London, E.C., 18 April. B.O.O.K.

BOOK SWINDLERS.

SIR,—Through the medium of the BOOKSELLER, I think it right to put the trade on their guard against what I believe to be a determined and systematic case of book-swindling. From the accompanying letters—the first dated “Rusholme, near Manchester, 22nd October, 1858:” the second, “Dunham-street, Hulme, near Manchester, 2nd December, 1858:” and the third, “Whitefield, near Manchester, 2nd April, 1859,” you will see that “business” has been carried on for some time, and that neglect of orders does not cause the customer offence. In reply to the first letter, an invoice was forwarded, accompanied by a note, stating that the books would be sent on receipt of the cash; hut, as was anticipated, *that* never arrived. On comparing the letters, I think you will agree with me in pronouncing the first and

the last to be written by the same hand—the address and the signature being varied. As might be expected, too, the orders are tempting, and no discount asked; while the favour of a catalogue to select from is politely requested. I think those of the trade who have been patronized with orders from “*near Manchester*,” should take the trouble of writing you. A comparison of notes might be useful. At the same time, do not let it be forgotten that head-quarters may have been or will be changed, and that there may be “branch offices.” Let all act on the principle of sending no books to an unknown person till the cash is received. Should this meet the eyes of the gang who write from “*near Manchester*,” or near anywhere else, they will understand that their ingenuity and stamps are lavished in vain on one who, for their object, is
Too FAR NORTH.

Edinburgh, April 8, 1859.

[This gang appears to be the same as that against which we warned our readers in the February number of the BOOKSELLER.]

THE BUSINESS OF H. J. WALLIS, EXETER.

SIR,—We shall be obliged by your setting us right with your readers by a line or two of explanation in reference to a remark in your last issue respecting Mr. Wallis's business and stock.

The purchase referred to by Mr. Clifford's solicitor was prior to ours. Mr. Clifford bought what was called the good-will of the business conducted by Mr. Wallis in High-street; but not any of the stock. Mr. Wallis opened another class of business in Gandy-street, and we bought his entire stock and fixtures. On the bill we sent you, a copy of which we enclose, we do not name the word *business*, which, in fact, was introduced by yourself, and very naturally too, for if a party buys the entire stock and takes the house the business was conducted in, he virtually has the business also.—We are, most respectfully,

Exeter, April.

S. DRAYTON & SONS.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Spenser's Poetical Works. Vols. I. and II. 8vo.

Nichol: Edinburgh.

By readers of taste and judgment the signal excellence of the poetry of Spenser has been always amply recognized, and, by critics of this class, the author of the “*Faerie Queene*” has been always associated with Shakspeare and with Milton at the very head of our great English poets. Of that well-merited fame which made a satirist of his own age call him the “*heavenly Spenser*,” there has been no diminution in our modern days. But his popularity has never been at all commensurate with the merit which has been assigned to him by more cultivated minds. The public have never learned, as the poets have, to turn to his pages with assurance of refined and rare delight from the true and touching poetry which underlies his allegorical disguises. To them, his fresh and glowing representations of the spirit of a bygone chivalry—the new and beautiful creations which his imagination con-

stantly gives birth to—his vivid pictures breathing with reality and life—his purity and tenderness of feeling and noble tone of virtue—the unsurpassed harmony and sweetness of his verse—all the high qualities, in fact, which made his great work, on its first appearance, “at once the delight of every accomplished gentleman, the model of every poet, and the solace of every scholar,”—have been for the most part hitherto as completely almost as those treasures of another kind which are contained in the higher truths of science, an unknown and unparticipated good. It has happened, somehow, that poets infinitely less able and poetry infinitely less enchanting have won for themselves a place in popular favour which has been unattainable by the sterling worth of Spenser and his works. Without inquiring into the questionable causes of this wide-spread indifference and neglect, we are compelled to believe that they cannot much longer prevail against the growing intelligence and taste which are beginning to discern how great the riches are which are hived in the writings of the older

masters of our literature, and we can readily imagine that this edition of some of the sweetest and selectest of them all may be destined to assist, in Spenser's case, in bringing about the more general appreciation and enjoyment of his rich and beautiful, though somewhat antiquated, verse.

Certainly, the volumes which are now before us are, in many particulars of arrangement and execution, admirably well fitted to promote this end. In spite of their low price, they are printed in a clear and handsome type, and modern synonyms of all obsolete words are given in the margin, in such distinctness that the reader's eye catches them without a moment's distraction of his mind from the melody or the meaning of the verse. The spelling, too, is throughout modernized—a freedom with the text to be deplored in works which are designed for those who are familiar with our earlier writers in their proper form, but indispenable to every other class of readers. By these means the editor has, we believe, removed one of the first formidable obstacles to an easy apprehension of Spenser's noblest poem. This, however, is only a small part of the service which he has already rendered or is about to render, in the good work of helping to make the "Faerie Queene" popular. To the first of the two volumes now before us, he has prefixed an introduction to the chief poem, in which the veil of allegory is drawn aside, and the reader sees what the subjects and the purpose are which were concealed behind it. The explanation of Spenser's hidden sense, which the editor has given in this essay, is as clear, and forcible, and full of interest as that which he has given elsewhere of the kindred allegory of the unlettered yet immortal John Bunyan; and it has the recommendation of being in great part suggested and confirmed by the exposition of his own plan which the poet has supplied us with in his admirable letter to Sir Walter Raleigh. Knowing what we do know of Mr. Gilfillan's genial power as a critic of true poetry, it may safely be assumed that this essay and that disquisition on Spenser's genius which is to appear in the forthcoming volume of the series, will, together, cast all the light that can be reasonably sought for on all that time or the temper of the poet's mind has made abstruse in these delightful compositions.

On Spenser himself the editor has already cast all the light that can be hoped for, in a short and excellent account of his life, which is prefixed to the second of the volumes now before us. There is something infinitely painful in the common record of the sorrows and the pangs of those who have been benefactors of mankind; and Spenser's history in his latter days is one of the painfulest of all. Not Bacon's sin and shame, nor Milton's poverty, and blindness, and neglect, are more pathetic than the suffering of the closing passages of Spenser's life. A long continuance of vexation and distress was crowned at last by calamities which were, as it has been well said, "sufficient to wither the fertility of any mind." Within a few months of his death he was compelled by the rebellion of Tyrone to fly from his beloved home on the banks of the Mulla; his property was stolen and his house burned by the insurgents, and a child, who had been left behind in the con-

fusion of his flight, perished in the flames. He died poor, and broken-hearted, at the age—not of fifty-five, as it is inadvertently printed in the *Life*—but of forty-five years; and he was buried, by his own desire, at the side of Chaucer in Westminster Abbey.

In the two volumes of Spenser's writings which are already issued in this edition, there are, along with the Editorial Essays we have spoken of, the first three Books and the first canto of the fourth Book of the "Faerie Queene." Of the particular grace and beauty of these portions of the poet's noblest work, we have no design or need to say a word. Poetry which has been commented on and criticized with almost equal admiration by the discriminating learning of the elder Disraeli, the poetic insight and refinement of Campbell, the large-hearted enthusiasm of Professor Wilson, and the unerring judgment of Hallam, has its literary rank established by an indefeasible title. But we must be permitted to repeat the hope that merits which have inspired minds as unlike as those of these accomplished critics with equal admiration and delight may win for themselves, by means of this edition, the far wider popularity to which they have as undeniable a claim.

A Catalogue of Tracts for and against Popery, published in or about the Reign of James II.
Printed for the Chetham Society. Part I., small 4to.

THE popular, or Exeter Hall, view of the Roman Catholic Religion is, that it is so hideous, so unnatural, and so repulsive, that not a word can be uttered in its favour. Yet in spite of all this, we find the subtle intellect of a Newman, once the pride of Oxford, enlisted in its support; the amiable, and unquestionably pious, Archdeacon Manning also engaged in the same cause, and hundreds of others, who are neither uneducated nor in their dotage. The Protestant view of Popery, then, must be something that differs widely from those who see it from within; and it may be inferred, that something may therefore be said in its behalf. That so much had been written on the Romanist side we were not aware until Mr. Jones's Catalogue came in our way; nor was it until after we had looked into it with some care that we learned how many, and what powerful pens had been employed. The Chetham Library, at Manchester, is, it seems, particularly rich in polemical works, possessing more English tracts in favour of Popery than any other, the British Museum excepted; but numerous as these works are, those on the other side are still more numerous; and Mr. Jones, the librarian, has, at immense pains, prepared a catalogue, of which the first part is now ready. These are all fully described, and wherever the author is known his name is given, and some particulars respecting him. In compiling the Catalogue the learned librarian has received the assistance of Dr. Todd, of Dublin, and has been aided by Mr. James Crossley, President of the Chetham Society, and the result is, as far as it at present goes, the most valuable and most reliable list of books on the subject in question. From the nature of the work it will become one of the scarcest of the books issued by the society, whose recent and proposed works we enumerated in our last number.

The Iliad of Homer, Books I.—VI. With Short English Notes for the Use of Schools. Oxford: John, Henry, & James Parker. 12mo, pp. 296.

WE have here another instalment of the "Oxford Pocket Classics," with short notes. As is universally the case with publications issuing from the Messrs. Parkers' press, the type is excellent, and, small as the volume itself is, might be scanned with facility by the eyes even of an octogenarian. The text is followed by a very useful Introduction, elucidatory of the peculiarities of the Homeric dialect; a synopsis of the contents of each book; and about one hundred and twenty pages of concise, but highly serviceable, English notes. In the compilation of these notes, special reference has been made, as we learn from the preliminary notice, to the edition of the *Iliad* by M. Fr. Dübner. It is a long time since we have seen any portion of the *Iliad* placed before the youthful student in so inviting a form.

Kelly's Keys to the Classics, Vol. XIV. Demosthenes. Speeches of Æschines against Ctesiphon; and Demosthenes on the Crown. Literally translated into English by Roscoe Mongan, A.B., Sch. Trin. Coll. Dublin. Dublin: William B. Kelly. 12mo, 2s.

FROM the cursory glance that we have been enabled to give at the contents of this neatly-printed (but, as times go, rather high-priced) little book, we are inclined to think that the translation is executed alike with scholarship and carefulness. At all events, we have not observed here, so far as our researches have extended, those incongruities which blemish a recent translation of Demosthenes by a scholar somewhat better known, probably, in the literary world than Mr. Mongan; we do not see, for example, the learned "dikasts" of Athens jauntily addressed as "gentlemen of the jury"—part of a perverse system, not of translation, but, in reality, of adaptation; and which, if consistently carried out, would lead to the Greek word "trieres" being done into English as "line-of-battle ship," and "templum" figuring as "a church." With such an example, in the matter, too, of Demosthenes, before him, we congratulate Mr. Mongan on his display of better taste, and his avoidance of a system by which the work of translation is brought to border very closely upon burlesque.

Cambridge Greek and Latin Texts. Thucydides. Recensuit Joannes Gulielmus Donaldson, S.T.P. Cambridge: Deighton, Bell, & Co. 2 vols. fcap. 8vo, 7s. 6d.

THE typography of these little volumes is unexceptionable, and the acknowledged scholarship of Dr. Donaldson is a warranty for the correctness of the text. With the choice of a Thucydides from either Oxford or Cambridge, it is to be hoped that no English schoolmaster will henceforth think of using a foreign edition, which can offer no advantage over either.

A Manual of Latin Prosody. By William Ramsay, M.A., Trin. Coll. Camb. Professor of Humanity in the University of Glasgow. Second Edition. London and Glasgow: Richard Griffin & Co. Crown 8vo, pp. 336.

MR. RAMSAY'S Manual having been out of print for some years, we have here a new and revised edition of the work. It is considerably enlarged,

too; as the chapter on the History of the Latin Alphabet has been wholly rewritten, and a supplementary chapter has been added on "Saturian Verse," generally supposed to have been the national metre of the Romans. The student will obtain in this elaborate volume every information he can possibly require upon the rules of versification and the requirements of quantity and correct pronunciation. No Latin scholar, too, however aged and however skilled in that language, will fail to add very considerably to his store of knowledge from a careful perusal of its pages, additionally recommended as they are to his notice by a most elaborate Index.

An Elementary Manual of Roman Antiquities. By William Ramsay, M.A., Trin. Coll. Camb. With numerous Illustrations. London and Glasgow: Griffin & Co. Crown 8vo, pp. 278. 4s.

FROM Mr. Ramsay's prefatory notice we learn that the publisher of his larger Manual on this subject (a work twice the size of the present, and adapted more especially to the use of advanced students) requested him to make such an abridgment of that work as might meet the views of practical instructors. This, in a great measure, through the friendly co-operation of another gentleman of literary eminence, he has now done, and the present useful volume, rendered doubly desirable by its numerous illustrations, is the result. Though more upon the plan of Adams's "Roman Antiquities" than of Dr. Smith's "Dictionary," these treatises are not unlikely to give the closing *coup de grace* to the former work; while, at the same time, as they draw a distinct line between the antiquities of Greece and those of Rome, it is very questionable whether in real utility they will not prove formidable rivals of the latter. The larger "Manual" we do not happen at this moment to have before us. The present volume, the author is inclined to think, may be placed in the hands "of boys in the second or third year of their Latin studies, and read with an outline of Roman History." Boys of a much larger growth, if we are not greatly mistaken, might consult its pages with no little advantage.

A Manual of the Roman Civil Law, arranged after the Analysis of Dr. Hallifax. By George Leapingwell, LL.D., Barrister-at-Law. Cambridge: Deighton, Bell, & Co. Pp. 350.

THE advance made in public opinion, the learned editor remarks, as to the importance of a sound legal education, has caused it to be acknowledged that no one can presume to call himself an accomplished lawyer unless he have some acquaintance with the Roman jurisprudence; and nothing has done more to deter the student from entering upon this branch of legal studies than the want of some book which presents a plain and comprehensive view of that extensive and intricate subject. To a desire to supply this deficiency we owe the present pages.

The volume professes to be arranged according to the Syllabus of Dr. Hallifax; and, so far as the author has found it practicable, this has been done. Since the time, however, of Hallifax, the long-lost "Institutes of Gaius" have been brought to light—a circumstance which has rendered it almost impossible to adhere to his arrangement beyond the third book of the Institutes. The division according to the four books of Justinian's

Institutes (the Rights of Persons, and the Rights of Things, under their three several heads) has been observed.

Though the author has made it his study, as he says, "to avoid a large book," this volume, in the hands of the law-student, will not fail to prove a most invaluable help. Even those "learned in the law," too, may read it at their firesides with edification, and, not impossibly, delight. At all events, its contents are anything but dry or distasteful to our thinking. We must not omit to notice, with commendation, its excellent Index.

An Exact Transcript of the Codex Augiensis, a Græco-Latin Manuscript of St. Paul's Epistles, deposited in the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge. To which is added, a full Collection of Fifty Manuscripts, containing various portions of the Greek New Testament, in the Libraries of Cambridge, Parham, Leicester, Oxford, Lambeth, the British Museum, &c. With a Critical Introduction. By the Rev. Frederick Henry Scrivener, M.A. Cambridge: Deighton, Bell, & Co. Royal 8vo, pp. 644.

THIS is a volume, we may briefly say, almost unparalleled (in these times, at least) for the laboriousness expended upon its compilation, and for the grandness of its biblical results. From his list of subscribers, containing the *élite* of the theological and classical scholars of this country at the present day, we are glad to see that the learned and industrious editor has not failed to meet with at least a satisfactory amount of encouragement in those quarters in which the value of his labours can be best appreciated. Any comments from us upon the execution of this grand work are needless; and indeed it would be wholly impossible for us to enter upon an examination of the plan and system which have been adopted within the narrow limits that are just now at our disposal.

A Complete Greek Grammar, for the Use of Students. By John William Donaldson, D.D., Classical Examiner in the University of London. Second Edition, considerably enlarged. Cambridge: Deighton, Bell, & Co. 8vo. pp. 668.

THE former edition of this work was widely, but we believe we are right in saying, not very favourably, known to the classical world. In reference, however, to the present edition, in numerous points of view, it will prove itself vastly superior to its predecessor. That was intended merely as a manual for learners, whereas the volume now before us, so numerous and so important are the additions that have been made by the learned author, aspires to be, to use his own words, "a book of reference, adapted to the use of the highest class of students in our public schools and universities." From a cursory glance at various portions of its multitudinous contents, we are inclined to think that it will be found to possess far more merits than the English version of Matthiæ, and none of its complexity and confusion, and bids fair to become a powerful antagonist of Mr. Jeff, who has so long held the first place in Greek philology. The type and the general plan of its arrangements are everything that could be desired; and the evident merits of the work, combined with its author's high repute

as a classical scholar, will, without doubt, insure it a very extensive patronage.

Frederick Schlegel's Lectures on the History of Literature. H. G. Bohn. 1859.

THE volume now before us is another of those valuable contributions which Mr. Bohn adds from time to time to the treasury of taste and learning with which he has endowed the readers of the English language. The high reputation which the lectures, in their original tongue, have all along enjoyed amongst scholars, on account of their combination of condensed thought and learning with clear and captivating eloquence of exposition, renders any praise of them in the present day unnecessary. It is enough for us to assure the reader that the art by which so vast an amount of important knowledge has been compressed into so agreeable and brief a book could only have been exercised by one who added to his experienced skill as a writer a perfect and minute familiarity with the whole spacious field of ancient and modern literature.

The translation has been well and carefully executed, and gives the reader the full benefit of the original work in a becoming and agreeable English dress. It has, moreover, a valuable index of more than twenty pages, which greatly adds to its convenience as a book of reference. On the whole, the volume bids fair by its merit to be one of the most useful and most popular of the popular and useful works which are comprehended in Mr. Bohn's "Standard Library."

BLACKADER'S "ENGLISH NEW TESTAMENT" is a very successful attempt to make the most of the authorized version. The author claims the merit only of "method, choice, and fidelity." His "method" is in the right direction, and is exhibited in a number of ingenious helps to the better understanding of the Sacred texts, forming in combination a highly interesting edition. The New Testament is here, for the first time since 1611, treated as any other collection of historical documents, without prejudice to its inspired character. The whole is put into paragraphs; speeches are marked by inverted commas, quotations from the Old Testament are in capitals, and discourses are printed in parallelisms, as pointed out by Bishop Jebb. The chapters are made subordinate to an arrangement into sections, to which dates and geographical headings are prefixed. The intimate connection of every part of the volume with the whole, and the mutual relations of the Gospels to each other, and of the Epistles to the Book of Acts, are clearly exhibited. A highly interesting feature is the comparison of the Received Text with the Vatican MS. The "English Bible," when finished, will be the completest and most convenient of Bibles. If, in the remaining portion (from Chronicles to Malachi) good use is made of the Septuagint and of the Vulgate, and the labours of English and foreign critics, the very numerous unintelligible passages will be greatly cleared up, and the perusal of the poetical books rendered more delightful; and, possessed of the "ENGLISH BIBLE" (aptly named), we can afford to wait many years for a "revision" of our old familiar volume.

Life in Tuscany. By Mabel Sharman Crawford. With Illustrations. 8vo. Smith, Elder, & Co.

ITALY, at the present moment, is the central point of interest to the whole of Europe. Still there is a paucity of books capable of imparting reliable information on the state of affairs, social and political, in that unhappy country. There are two works of great merit which would place the whole question of "Italy, Past and Present," before the English reader, were they made accessible by translation; namely, Quinet's "Revolutions of Italy," and Montanelli's "Memoirs." It is scarcely possible to understand of what the social organization of Italy consists, except through the philosophical analysis of Edgar Quinet. "Life in Tuscany" is a very acceptable contribution to our knowledge of not the least important section of Italy. Miss Crawford describes the social condition of the people very graphically, and we must say her pictures are not very flattering, nor do they encourage us to hope much from a people so much divided against itself; of whom Bonaparte declared, that out of eighteen millions of people, he with much difficulty found two men. Such are the fruits of long-continued foreign tyranny, from which we cannot but hope to see this fair country delivered. Among the chapters of Miss Crawford's book that will be most eagerly perused, are those on "Society," on "the Peasant," on "Religion," and one containing a summary of the events of the late revolution. Italy boasts a population of twenty-five millions of souls. It seems incredible that a nation which has played so important a part in the annals of the past, should now bend under the yoke of a foreign despotism. Miss Crawford's book excites our sympathy as well as our pity, for the suffering people.

Rabbit-Cooking in One Hundred and Twenty-Four Dishes. By an Old Epicure. W. Kent & Co. 18mo.

HENCEFORTH the rabbit will be exalted in dignity among dishes and their cooks. No longer limited to "boiled and stewed" it may be roasted, fried, broiled, or baked; made into pies, puddings, soups, curries, fricassees, and served cold or "warmed-up," in all manner of disguises. The rabbit plays a very important part in domestic economy, seeing that it is one of the cheapest attainable forms of food, and that of a most nutritious and palatable kind. This "Gourmets Guide" is, then, worthy the attention of the political economist as well as of the thrifty housekeeper; it should be taken up by the members of every society for the diffusion of *useful* knowledge.

MR. BOHN'S LIBRARIES.

We are somewhat in arrear with our notices of Mr. Bohn's volumes, which have come out faster than we could take a note of them; but before long we hope to do them full justice. We may, however, mention that "Evelyn" is now complete. So also is "Rosse's Index of Dates." For the next issues we are promised "Butler's Hudibrass," which Mr. Bohn himself edits. A new part of Lowndes, which will, for the first time, give us something like complete lists of the writings of Hood, Hook, and Wm. Hone. Lastly, Mr. Bohn announces the commencement of a new series of school books, of which the first volume is a Greek Testament.

Davenport Dunn. By Charles Lever. 8vo, 23s.

It is impossible to give to the reader any abstract of this animated volume of adventures. It is full to overflowing of the spirit which the *clientèle* of the circulating libraries have learned to look for with confidence in Mr. Lever's compositions. Clearly marked characters, selected impartially from all the various stages of society, and including scoundrels, heroes, and angelic women; adventures, dashing, deep, and desperate, and daring; admirably written colloquies, studded with humour, character, and wit; perpetual liveliness of style, and charming pictures of scenery, are the materials which, according to his wont, he has blended together in the work before us with an effect so interesting and irresistible in its attraction that there is no possibility of turning away from the volume until the last of its seven hundred pages has been duly read.

How many of Mr. Lever's characters have been drawn from living models, we have, of course, no means of knowing, but the reader will have no difficulty in fixing on the well-known individual of whom Davenport Dunn is the presentment. Others also, in their lifelike air, have very much the cast of idealized portraits, and will very probably be recognized by the delighted readers of the work. However this may be, there is a moral truth, and vigour, and consistency in the delineation of the chief actors in the author's history, and a magnificence of passion in some of his principal scenes, which secure to his production the merit and attractiveness of a very masterly work of fiction, which, in spite of the power that breathes through it, is never found to overstep the modesty of nature.

The Julia: a Tale. By the Author of "Nellie of Truro." London: Simpkin, Marshall, & Co.

THERE is a good deal of raciness and spirit in this story, in the earlier chapters especially. The character of Stell, as she appears in her untamed state, is graphically drawn, and indicates a sense of humour. This young lady is a cross between Nancy Yawse and Topsy: "brat," "vixen," "hussy," were, we are informed, the endearing titles by which her friends were in the habit of designating her. Her parents being both inveterate drunkards, the child is early compelled to seek her own livelihood, and passes a queer and precarious existence. In the beginning of her history, we find her combining the professions of theatrical dancer and hairdresser's assistant. Her abilities, however, soon gain recognition, and she becomes a popular actress; but when she loses her uncouthness, she loses half her attraction, and all her novelty. Before we take leave of her, she has left the stage, and is performing the duties of an earnest, helpful, Christian woman.

We have been scarcely just in taking up all our time with this lady to the neglect of the other personages who figure in the narrative; but we suspect it is decreed for her to attract more than her fair share of attention.

Hardwicke's Shilling Handy Book of London will be found by all visitors to the Metropolis to be just what its title describes it. All that is worth seeing by our country cousins during the week they stay is pithily described, its whereabouts stated; and wherever an order to view it is required, the means of obtaining the order is given. The work contains several woodcuts.

The Ancient Cornish Drama. Edited and Translated by Mr. Edwin Norris, R.A.S. Oxford University Press. 2 vols. 8vo. 21s.

A Sketch of Cornish Grammar. By the same. 3s.

SINCE the decease of Polly Penruddock, who was so well known at Penzance, on market days, no one has been found to speak the Cornish tongue, or as that lady was wont to consider it, the ancient tongue of Britain. They, therefore, who desire to make its acquaintance, must do so by means of books, and will feel grateful to Mr. Norris, in the first place, for his labours; and in the second place to the University of Oxford, for printing these volumes, which cannot remunerate either the author or publisher. They are, in fact, nothing more than mere curiosities of literature, and serve to exhibit how much truth was combined with the errors of the reading portion of Cornish men in the fourteenth century.

The work consists of three old mystery or miracle plays, of which the original is given on the left hand page, and a translation on the right. The first is on the Creation, wherein Adam, amongst other animals, named the Conger. The second play is on the Passion of our Lord, and the third on the Resurrection. Following these are notes, a grammar of the language, also, printed separately, a vocabulary, a list of names of places mentioned, &c.

Beeton's Dictionary of Universal Information, in monthly numbers, at threepence, appears one of the most useful and complete repertories of information yet published, and withal one of the cheapest—each number contains thirty-two pages of closely-packed and very well compiled information respecting Geography, History, Biography, Mythology, Bible History, and Chronology, with the correct pronunciation of proper names, with maps and illustrations. Each subscriber will also stand the ten-thousandth part of a chance of getting a gold watch or other valuable.

The Stationer's Handbook (Groombridge, 2s.6d.) contains that kind of information which an intelligent lad would pick up in a stationer's shop during the first two years of his apprenticeship, but much of which a mere bookseller will never have an opportunity of learning. To such persons the work will be useful. A country correspondent, a stationer, wishes us to warn the trade against this work, which, as he says, is very dear. But as there are many booksellers who do not know what is a "retree," nor how many sheets there are in a "perfect ream," it will not be found the useless work he imagines it to be.

Much in Little. By Mrs. W. Albut. Routledge. 1s.

THIS is a book which every woman, young or old, will find of the greatest service. Mothers especially, who desire to stand well with their children, and be able to answer their questions, will here find such an amount of information as will render it a constant companion till they have absorbed its contents. So many common Latin words and phrases—names of heavenly bodies—matters of religion, chronology, and history—all which will be found in the hundred pages of which the volume consists, that the title of "*Much in Little*" will be found no misnomer.

Chambers's Encyclopædia.

THE first part of this work, announced in our last number, is now before us, and deserves the hearty commendation of all who are interested in the diffusion of useful knowledge. To describe the contents is impossible, unless, by the use of a negative, we say that nothing is omitted which should be there. Biography and history, as a matter of course; also all the sciences, simple and compound; but in addition to all that might be expected, there is a great deal of information to be found here that would not be expected, and which we should look for in vain elsewhere—legal definitions and theological dogmas, for instance, and so treated, too, that every man may become his own lawyer without the usual addendum for a client, and may dig deep in the theological mine also, without fear of the "odium." The only objection we have to make is one that we have privately communicated to the publishers, and as it will probably be removed in subsequent editions, need not be further referred to. Messrs. Chambers refer to this as the crowning point of all their labours. They may well do so; and popular as their works have been, we shall be greatly surprised if this do not become the most popular of all.

Mary, and other Poems. By the Author of "Lyrics." Arthur Hall, Virtue, & Co.

THERE is genuine merit in much of Mr. Buchanan's poetry. We should like it better if it were somewhat simpler and more natural; but its faults of affected and strained expression only mar, and do not hide, its beauty.

In some remarks prefixed to his little volume, the author says that it is in the minor pieces contained in his work that he desires his claim to the character of a poet to be at present vested. Some of these minor pieces are certainly worthy the preference he indirectly confesses for them. "A Sigh" has a singular pathetic sweetness of feeling, particularly the last verse:—

"Dreaming and dreaming on my darling's tomb,
I pray to be forgiven,
If, while all nature smiles, I sit in gloom,
And turn weak eyes to Heaven."

"Love's Simple Song to Mary" is also musical and tender; and some verses of "At Last," though the latter poem, as a whole, seems to us somewhat obscure. "Adeline" also deserves mention, as a very delicate and graceful love-song.

A Series of Papers upon the Broken Unity of the Church, the Mode of its Restoration, &c. Peew-tress & Co. Fcap. 8vo., pp. 525.

THE writer of this book, dissatisfied with things as they are, and having a leisure Sunday afternoon, thought that he would turn it to good account by studying those passages of the Bible which refer to the Church, when all at once the truth which he has sought to work out in this volume flashed upon him. From this we learn that Mr. John Angell James is bigoted, Dr. Miller is uncharitable, and everybody but himself quite wrong; of course, much of this might be expected from so labourious a student, but that Popery still lurks in Carr's Lane Chapel, under the venerable pastor there, will be news to most persons. The author gives what he considers the marks of an apostolic church; and wherein moderns differ from and, consequently, depart therefrom.

Hollywood Hall: a Tale of 1715. By James Grant, Author of "The Romance of War," &c. Routledge. Fcap. 8vo, 5s.

By intermingling a few of the stirring, national incidents of the year 1715, with a large portion of savoury fiction, Mr. Grant has produced a compound which will be highly relished by all who have a taste for well-spiced dishes. A brief outline of his story will furnish an idea of its character.

One evening during the month of August, 1715, a stranger enters the old town of Chester, having just landed in England from St. Germain, and being the bearer of certain inflammatory communications from the Chevalier de St. George to his adherents in Cheshire and other northern counties. Edward Errington is the name the young gentleman gives to inquirers, but it appears he has no great right to the cognomen; indeed, the fact that he was an obscure and nameless individual, whose parentage was a matter of mystery, was one of the recommendations which procured him the honour of his present perilous appointment. His first visit in England is to be paid to Hollywood Hall, in Cheshire, the seat of Sir Lennard Arden, Bart.; and here he arrives on the day after that on which we make his acquaintance; but not before he has become embroiled in two quarrels, one with a Squire Willoughby, and the other with a low ruffian, named Thorley. Sir Lennard Arden is a loyal Jacobite, and at Hollywood Hall Errington passes some delightful weeks, although his happiness is somewhat clouded by a discovery he makes that his quondam foe, Willoughby, is an intimate friend of the family, and a suitor for the hand of Sir Lennard's fair cousin, Lucy, with whom, of course, as in duty bound, Mr. Edward Errington has fallen desperately in love. The circumstance of their becoming rivals does not increase the mutual regard of the two young men; but as Willoughby is also a Jacobite, they are persuaded, for the sake of the cause, to stifle their animosity as far as they can. During his sojourn at Hollywood, too, Errington again falls in with Thorley, and finds that that gentleman is meditating a dire revenge upon him, and what is more, that he knows the history of his birth, a secret of which the poor lad himself is profoundly ignorant.

Upon the 6th of October, 1715, Arden, and Errington, and Willoughby, join the Earl of Derwentwater, Mr. Forster, and other historical Jacobite characters, in Northumberland; and the party, with a small body of followers, repair to Warkworth, and proclaim King James the Third. It is not necessary to recapitulate the events to which this proceeding was the prelude. Mr. Grant's description of the fierce struggle by which the insurrection in the north of England was terminated is spirited and effective, but we have not space to enlarge upon its merits. The fate which befell his chief *dramatis personæ*, in their brief and disastrous campaign, may be soon told. Errington was taken prisoner, but escaped execution; and Arden received a gun-shot wound in the thigh; the young baronet's life was not lost, but he subsequently perished by the hand of Thorley, who owed a grudge to the Arden family, of which Sir Lennard, though the worst, was not the only victim. As for Squire Willoughby, he turned traitor.

Thorley, having committed a second murder, is, at the end of the story, captured, and condemned to death. Before he suffers he repents of his sins, and makes a confession, wherein is revealed the secret of Edward Errington's history.

The Dean: or, the Popular Preacher. A Tale. 3 vols. By Berkeley Aiken, Author of "Anne Sherwood." London: Saunders, Otley, & Co.

THIS book ought not to injure, if it fail to increase, the reputation its author gained by her first publication. It has fewer taking qualities than "Anne Sherwood," it has less passion and less brilliancy, but it is neither less earnest nor less conscientious.

This story, so far as the Dean is concerned in it, has the twofold aim of describing the influence of ambition as a ruling passion, and of exposing the hideousness of religious hypocrisy. A young Irish orphan lad, residing with some relatives upon the shores of Killarney, is smitten with an inordinate desire for distinction. Being too poor to obtain the most meagre assistance in the way of education, he sets to work to instruct himself, and has already made some little advance in the difficult business, when an extraordinary turn of fortune puts his friends into the possession of a very considerable sum of money. To have the means of gratifying his longings brought thus so near his reach, proves too strong a temptation for the aspirant: he robs his family, and escapes to Dublin, where, having changed his baptismal name, and added an aristocratic O' to his surname, he remains for some years, his ill-gotten wealth sufficing to carry him through his academic career. When his studies are completed he obtains a cure in England, and becomes a "popular preacher" in the English Church, enjoying, besides his renown for genius and eloquence, the reputation of being very little short of a saint. But, in spite of all his qualifications, his aggrandizement in life is, at first, somewhat slow; and this through his own inconsistency in marrying the poor woman whom he loves instead of the rich woman whose alliance would have promoted his interests. For this error, however, he atones, after his first wife's death, by uniting himself to a coronet; and by this step, of course, his position is made sure. He walks at his ease into the Deanery, and commands enough of this world's honour to satisfy even himself. The remainder of his life is employed in acquiring influential connections, and in more firmly establishing his character for exemplary piety.

The subject the author has chosen is not an easy one, and it is not surprising if her treatment of it has some weak points. The defects of her work are more of a negative than a positive kind. The contrast between the Dean's public and private career is well sustained; and, as far as it goes, the development of his ambition is good and in excellent keeping. This development, however, is by no means complete. The character is presented too much in detached views for us to be sufficiently impressed with the operation of ambition as the dominant moving principle. The power of the master-passion would have been more strikingly manifest if it had been exhibited in regular continued action rather than on picked occasions. The earlier part of the book, especially, is a little disconcerting from its

suddenness. It would have been a great improvement if there had been half a volume instead of five short chapters before the sixth chapter of the first volume. It would have been better, too, if the Dean's path to fame had been made more difficult, that we might have had more palpable evidence of the strength of the force by which he was impelled.

"The Dean" touches, in passing, upon the evils of party-spirit in the Church of England, and a number of sketches are introduced of High Church and Low Church ecclesiastics. There are also one or two "studies" of dissenters.

Ellen Raymond; or, Ups and Downs. By Mrs. Vidal. 3 vols. Smith, Elder, & Co.

THESE volumes relate the history of a supereminently beautiful and self-willed girl, to whose lot falls a full share of the trials which an individual so distinguished might be expected to meet with in her course through life. In spite of all her faults and all her temptations, Ellen Raymond is preserved from serious evil, and in the end becomes greatly softened and improved. We think, however, that Mrs. Vidal might with advantage have dwelt more at length upon the purifying process her heroine's mind is represented as having passed through, and made its results more definite and entirely satisfactory. Having made Helen so attractive as well as so imperfect, it would have been well to make it particularly clear that the young lady, in her natural state, was by no means intended as a model.

The narrative would have been better for more concentration; but it is interesting, and, taken as a whole, has a strong air of reality. The characters indicate that the author has considerable power of observation; it is scarcely necessary to say that those amongst them which are copied the most closely from nature are the best. "The Mortimers" are good, both as a family and individually, with the exception of Granville, who has too much of the regular *primo uomo* cut. Alick Hay, too, is a pleasant and life-like delineation; and Helen herself inspires a much more human liking than many of the ladies who give their names to novels in three volumes.

Home Memories; or, Echoes of a Mother's Voice. By Mrs. Carey Brock. Author of "Children at Home," &c. London: Seeley, Jackson, & Halliday.

THE value of the legacy to her children which a good mother leaves in her example, and the powerful influence her early instruction may exercise upon them through their entire lives, are exemplified in this story, in the person of a young girl named Alice Cornewall.

Edith and Alice Cornewall lose their mother just as they are passing out of childhood, and their father being compelled to leave England, they are placed at boarding-school. Through the various trials of her school-life, her mother's life and lessons are safeguards which preserve Alice in happy security. Edith is more headstrong than her sister, and gets into various scrapes; but, at the end of the story, we find her also listening to the "echoes" of her "mother's voice."

"Home Memories" is handsomely got up, with an illustrated frontispiece.

Old and Young. London: Smith, Elder & Co.

THIS volume, which its author is either too modest or too proud publicly to acknowledge, will not, probably, be what is called a popular novel, but, by all readers whose judgment is of value, it will be recognized as a work of higher character than the bulk of the productions which are at present going the rounds of the novel-reading world. It possesses, indeed, unmistakeable merit. A fresh and graceful style, which is firm as well as delicate, and dignified as well as easy, is not in itself an insignificant quality; but it is distinguished beyond and above this, by a calm and even power, and a fine feeling for the beautiful both in inanimate and in human nature, which denote that the writer, whoever he may be, is something more than merely a practised sentence-maker.

The story has a plot, but that is perhaps rather an objection to it than a recommendation. For our own parts we should have been glad if all circumstances of doubtful parentage, and all romantic discoveries had been left out, and we had been supplied with no other entertainment than the pictures of tranquil and refined country life with which the tale commences. The purpose of the book is to show that in most people "right and wrong principles of action are blended," and that "there are ever to be met with pure and gracious creatures, in whom the trace of selfishness is so faintly marked as not to be visible to candid eyes." To illustrate this moral a very choice little portrait-gallery is opened to us, wherein are one or two portraits of rare sweetness; indeed, the whole collection deserves all praise.

A Golden Year, and its Lessons of Labour. By the Author of "Mariau Falconer." London: Seeley, Jackson, & Halliday.

THIS book displays that rare combination of qualities which is required to make a really good religious story for the young. And not only this: for it aims at and reaches a much higher grade of merit than most productions of the kind pretend to. The author has not been content to represent the stereotyped good child and naughty child. Each of the juvenile characters in her work has a distinct individuality, which is successfully sustained throughout the narrative.

The story is one of every-day life, chronicling the struggles of a boy, who, united to deep conscientiousness and earnest religious feeling, has a large amount of constitutional indolence. But though entirely domestic, the incidents described are the reverse of tedious or uninteresting. The author has the happy faculty of discovering flowers in the beaten track which to ordinary eyes appears hopelessly barren. Most writers would make a very dull affair of their sketch of a baby-boy; but no picture in the "Golden Year" is sweeter or more graceful than that of "Illa," Norman Churchhill's infant brother.

We do hesitate to place this tale on a level with such works as the story of "A Hero."

Marion Lee, and other Tales. By A. M. Sargeant, Miss Strickland, and others. London: Dean & Son, Ludgate Hill.

THIS is a prettily illustrated volume, containing five tales of religious character. "Marion Lee" is designed to show the important effects of a

sister's influence. "The Casket," which is the longest story of the collection, has a similar purpose. "The Orphan Captive" relates the adventures of a young French lady who fell into the hands of some wild Moorish tribe, and lived some time amongst them in a state of slavery, but was at length restored to liberty and civilized society. "Uncle Maitland's Birthday" is very excellent in spirit and teaching, and "Home for the Summer Holidays" bright and touching.

Edward Charlton; or, Life behind the Counter. By Frederick Ross. London: Henry Lea, Warwick Lane.

THE object of this tale, which is dedicated to the leaders of the Metropolitan Early Closing Association, is to exhibit the evil consequences resulting from late trade hours. Edward Charlton is an intelligent and religious young man, who comes from a respectable country home to a London linendraper's. On the very first day of his arrival in town, he makes an acquaintance which bodes ill for his future; but he steadily resists all the temptations to dissipation which his friend Mr. Dennis so earnestly presses upon him, until one Sunday morning, when, weary and worn out with a week's late hours, he has risen too late for church. On this occasion he suffers himself to be persuaded, against his conscience, to join in a pleasure-trip, and this is the beginning of his downward course.

"Edward Charlton" is written with considerable ability, and we hope it will be of service to the cause it supports. It deserves attention; and that not more on account of its specific purpose than for its general tendency. All young men who are entering upon life in a London "house of business" will do well to peruse it. The author evidently writes from experience of the difficulties and dangers of such a position.

The Maid of Norway: A Romantic Comedy. In Five Acts. By John Waddie. London: E. Marlborough & Co., Ave Maria Lane.

"A ROMANTIC COMEDY, in five acts," sounds rather startling, suggesting, as it does, a preposterous collection of bad jokes; but Mr. Waddie's production will agreeably disappoint the expectations of those who anticipate finding it an unwieldy mass of over-wrought fun.

The play is partly verse and partly prose. A large number of characters are engaged in it, the chief of these being Matilda, the Maid of Norway; Belinus, King of Britain; Brennius, his brother, King of Northumbria; and Gothlac, King of Denmark. Brennius and Gothlac are rivals for the hand of Matilda; but the lady's inclination is very decidedly in favour of the former; and, upon one occasion, she tells King Gothlac a "piece of mind," with which he must have been greatly edified. Of course there are plenty of love adventures, but our space will not permit to enter into details.

Knipe's (J. A.) Geological Map of Scotland, in sheets, 21s., mounted, 25s.

Nicol's Geological Map of Scotland, in cl. case, 21s.

J. A. Knipe, an amateur geologist of some standing, has published a geological map of Scotland, beautifully coloured, scale twelve miles to an inch. We have now two good modern geological maps of Scotland; the other, which was published last autumn by Messrs. Blackwood, is by Professor Nicol of Aberdeen and Alexander Keith Johnston, and is on a somewhat larger

scale than Mr. Knipe's, and has the great advantage of having an index compiled from the map of 7000 names, thus combining with the geological the newest and fullest topographical information possessed by any existing map of the country.

Worboise's Life of Dr. Arnold. Hamilton & Co., Crown 8vo, 3s. 6d.

A WELL-DIGESTED and compact life of Dr. Arnold was a desideratum; but it was a life not easily written after Canon Stanley's masterly memoir. Yet we are disposed to think that this, by Miss Worboise, supplies the want. She has evidently made the great man her study—has read all that has been written upon him, at least all that was to the purpose, and has embodied it in this volume which, to those who have not read Canon Stanley's work will be found to supply all that is required to obtain a real view of Arnold—and to those who have read that work, this will be seen to embody much new matter not to be found in the other. Amongst those whose writings have been made use of is the author of "Tom Brown's School-days," Mr. Hughes, who, it will be remembered, was one of Arnold's pupils.

Memoir of Dr. Henderson. By his Daughter. Knight & Son. 7s. 6d.

DR. HENDERSON was a man of whom a memoir was expected. Born at Dunfermline in 1784, we find him, at twelve years of age, helping to get his own living at a trade, and a few years later, under the patronage of the Haldanes, he became a missionary student, and set out for India in company with another one. They took Denmark as the readiest way of getting to the east, but became so useful during the time they were detained there, that their patrons determined they should remain in Northern Europe, and turn their hands to what they might find to do. Here Dr. Henderson remained many years, became the agent of the Bible Society, helped to spread the Scriptures, formed other societies, and did the work of an Evangelist. Iceland and Russia were visited, and accounts of both places published. On his return, Dr. Henderson became tutor of the dissenting college at Hoxton, and afterwards at Highbury, whence he was superannuated, and died last year. As an author he was well known and much respected. His Commentaries upon Isaiah, Jeremiah, the twelve minor Prophets, and Ezekiel, are standing monuments of his scholarship and abilities, and will help to perpetuate his memory. This memoir by his daughter is ably and fairly compiled, and deserves to be successful.

Buchanan's Notes of a Clerical Furlough.

Blackie. Crown 8vo. 7s. 6d.

COMPELLED by ill health to seek a change of climate, Dr. Buchanan gladly availed himself of a friend's offer to take him as far as Palestine in his yacht. Arrived at the Holy Land, he set himself vigorously to work to see all that was worth looking at, but especially those places immortalized in holy writ. As he proceeded he took notes of his route, and has now given the contents of his journal. It is full of interest, as may be expected; for although of late years so many travellers have described the locality, every one appears to find something new. The great points of interest will perhaps be Dr. Buchanan's examination of the currently reported sites of our Lord's ministrations, and the conclusion he arrives at respecting them.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE MONTH.

The prices named are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise expressed:

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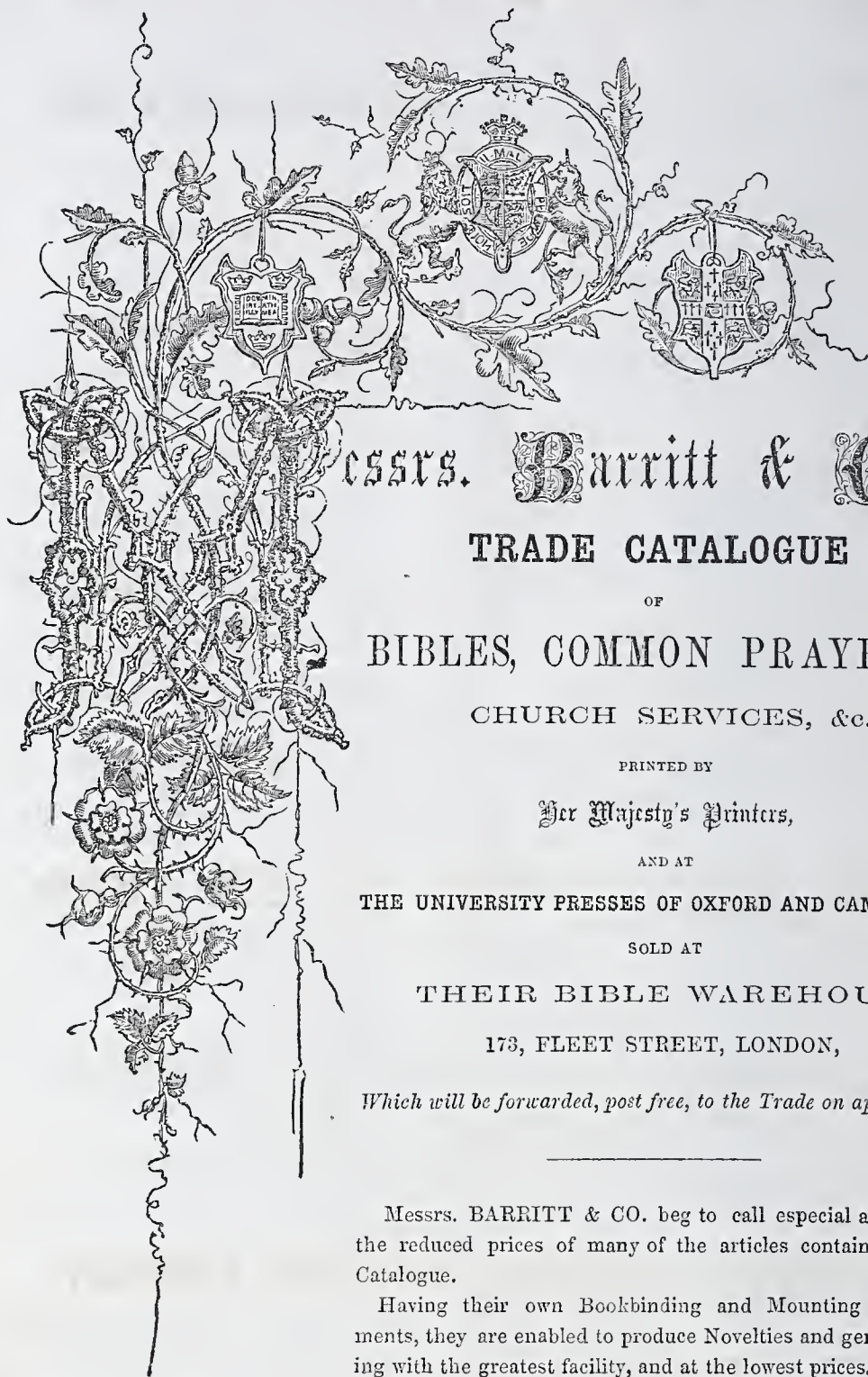
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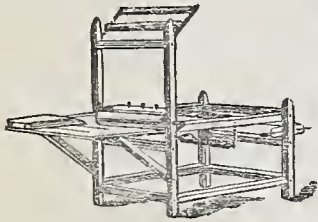
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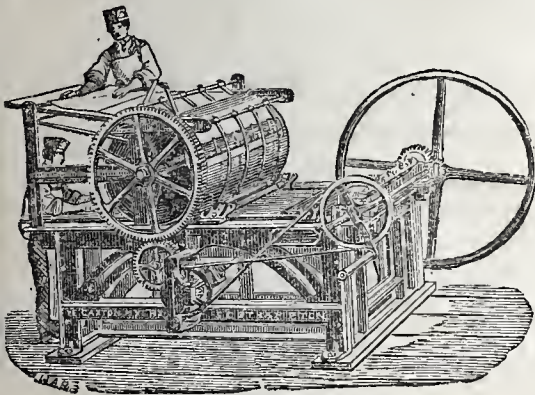
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The solicitor of Mr. Wm. Clifford, of 24, High Street, Exeter, informs us that that gentleman purchased on the 29th December, 1857, the business of Mr. H. J. Wallis of that city; consequently there must be some mistake in the paragraph which appeared in our last number, stating that Messrs. Drayton & Sons had purchased it. We received notice of the purchase from Messrs. Drayton, who forwarded a printed handbill announcing the sale of the stock they had purchased, and that Mr. Wallis's house was to let.

Mr. Thomas Hodgson, formerly of Aldine Chambers, announces his intention of resuming business at 44, Paternoster Row, where he will publish some first-rate works of fiction, &c.

Mr. Allen, lately in partnership with Mr. Tal-
lent, has commenced a separate business in Belle Sauvage Yard.

Mr. Holmes, of 48, Paternoster Row, has just disposed of Mr. Churchill's business, at Notting Hill, to Mrs. Spurrier. The valuation was made by Mr. Holmes and Mr. Alvey.

Mr. Bird's business, at St. John's Wood, is sold to Mrs. Ackerman, the widow of the late Mr. Ackerman, of the Strand. The valuation was made by Mr. Holmes and Mr. Page.

Mr. Reckitt, of Wigan, has disposed of his business to Mr. Bucknall, late of Stroud. The valuation was made by Mr. Holmes and Mr. Gray.

Mrs. Wallis, of Brighton, has just sold her business to Mr. Pearce. The valuation was made by Mr. Holmes and Mr. Gray.

Mr. Clark, late of Leominster, has purchased the business of Mr. Bucknall, of Stroud.

The business formerly carried on at Pontefract by Mr. George Fox, and latterly by his nephew, Mr. G. Fox Copley, has been taken by Mr. J. D. Littlefield, who for several years was with Messrs. Whitley & Booth, Halifax. The valuation was made by Mr. Hicks, of the firm of Hicks & Allen, Wakefield.

Mr. Folthorp, of Brighton, has taken the premises lately occupied by the Unity Bank in that town, where his bookselling and stationery business will be removed, his old shop being retained for the library.

Mr. Edward Edwards, late Chief Librarian of the Manchester Free Library, has resigned that post and joined the firm of Dunnill and Palmer, who have also taken into partnership Mr. Thomas Howe, who for several years had been in their employ. This bookselling business will be carried on under the firm of Dunnill, Palmer, & Co. Messrs. D. & P., having succeeded to the business of Lockett, Sons, & Leake, lithographers, &c., will carry on that business under the firm of Dunnill and Palmer. Mr. Edwards is the author of the great work on Libraries reviewed in this month's BOOKSELLER.

Mr. J. Heywood, of Manchester, has removed from his late very inconvenient house to handsome and commodious premises on the opposite side of the way in Deansgate.

Mr. H. Pearce, of Sheffield, has removed from his very out-of-the-way situation in Gibraltar-street to larger and more commodious premises in the Haymarket.

Mr. Brailsford, many years connected with the *Sheffield Independent*, has joined Mr. Pawson. The firm now trade as Pawson, Brailsford, & Co.

Mr. S. Harding has succeeded to the business of Mr. Barker, Barnard Castle; the valuation was made by Mr. Braithwaite, of Bishop Auckland, and Mr. Richard Roberts of Horncastle.

The business of Messrs. Pring & Price, Mold, will in future be carried on by Mr. Pring; the valuation was made by Mr. Richard Roberts, of Horncastle.

We are informed from America that there is no probability of an increase in the present import duties on English books, as stated some time since in the *Publisher's Circular*.

Bearing in mind the scriptural injunction about rebuking our elders, we will only remind them, that, as we are in the habit of quoting contemporaries by name when we borrow from *them*, it is only fair that they should do the same by us when they return the compliment. We are at some pains in procuring reliable information, and observe frequent use made of it by others. They are quite welcome to it; our object is to spread information respecting literature; but we do not like to see our paragraphs copied without acknowledgment, and then requoted with contemporaries' names attached, as though the information in question had originally appeared in their columns.

Our statement about the authorship of the "Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation" has reopened the whole question, and the *Critic*, having possessed itself of a small particle of truth, has built up a theory of its own on that foundation. It stated boldly that the late George Combe was the author. This is untrue. He had something to do with it, but was not the author. We are not now about to let out the secret, but will admit that there were several gentlemen engaged upon it. Who they were we may reveal on some future occasion, when our contemporaries have exhausted all their ingenuity in speculations; but those who feel an interest in the matter may take our word for it that Professor Nichol's statement on this subject is entitled to every possible respect. The *Critic*, of March 19, has the following:—

"We have already stated that, when we attributed the authorship of 'The Vestiges' to Mr. George Combe, we did so upon the authority of one whose name is second to that of none in the world of science,—perhaps we should have indicated the source of our information more clearly had we said, whose name has no equal. We are now in a position to state the grounds upon which this conclusion was arrived at by the person indicated. When 'The Vestiges' first appeared he felt satisfied, as well from the style as from internal evidence, that Combe was the author of it. To test this he made certain corrections of a few misstatements of recondite facts, and caused those corrections to be shown to George Combe, and to him only; but when the second edition appeared those mistakes, and those only, were found to have been corrected. This was pretty strong inferential evidence; but it so happened that afterwards a long private correspondence took place between this personage and Mr. Combe, arising out of some points mooted in 'The Vestiges,' especially phrenological ones—the former combating Mr. Combe's views, which were entirely in unison with those of the author of 'The Vestiges.' But what is more conclusive than all this is the fact, that during the whole of that correspondence the person to whom we have referred invariably assumed Mr. Combe to be, and addressed him as, the author of 'The Vestiges,' and this was never denied, or in any way contradicted by Mr. Combe. From these facts, and from that time forth, it became a settled conviction in his mind that Mr. George Combe was the author of 'The Vestiges,'—and we are not surprised at it. It is upon this authority that the catalogue of the British Museum has been altered, and the book will now be found under the head of George Combe, instead of, as formerly, under that of Robert Chambers.

"Since writing the above, we find that Professor Nichol has once more replied to us, not directly, but in the *North British Daily Mail*. His letter is as follows:—

"Sir,—I beg to assure the editor of the *Critic* that I did not make the statement contained in my last note in anywise on the ground that Mr. Combe never told me that he had written the "Vestiges of Creation." I denied and deny that he did so, because of my own position and immediate knowledge. It is open to all who are concerned about the question to take my assertion at the value which may seem to each person to belong to it. I cannot expect the editor of the *Critic* to place my averment against his "authority," although I would beg to suggest that the mere fact of his informant being "an eminent scientific man" cannot by itself weigh much in evidence. As to my own conjectures concerning the authorship of the volume referred to—even if I have formed any—it is very clear that this point is not at all involved in the proposition I felt it right to lay down.—I am, &c.,

"J. P. NICHOL."

"Mr. Nichol must pardon us if we think that his assertion is not equal in value to that of the 'eminent scientific man' upon whose evidence our own statement and the correction in the British Museum Catalogue are alike based, and he must allow us to say that his own 'conjectures concerning the authorship of the volume referred to' are very much involved in the proposition he has laid down. We named a name, and have now given the grounds for doing so. Mr. Nichol has done neither; he has merely given a flat contradiction; admitting at the same time that he has nothing but 'conjectures' to rely upon."

If the "eminent scientific man" in question has placed Mr. George Combe's name in the Museum Catalogue—as stated, we would recommend him to lose no time in taking it out again.

Mr. David Page, who, being then in the service of the firm, had an opportunity of seeing the proof-sheets in the hands of Mr. Robert Chambers, jumped to the conclusion that that gentleman *must* in consequence be the author, and at once bruited this opinion abroad. Annoyed at the contradiction we were authorised to give this assertion of his, he has again given vent to it in a letter to the *Caledonian Mercury*, in which he says: "To put an end to this now and for ever, I hereby affirm—and the proofs of this affirmation lie before me fresh and incontrovertible as they did a dozen years ago—that Mr. Robert Chambers is the sole and responsible author of the 'Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation.' I say 'responsible' in a somewhat qualified sense, leaving others to fix the amount of responsibility they would attach to an ingenious compilation, but very general misapprehension, of the scientific opinions and discoveries of others.—I am, &c., DAVID PAGE."

Another matter on which several journals pretending to exclusive information have been doing their best to mislead the public about, is the *Household Words*. In this, again, we were the first to state that there would shortly be some change; our advertising pages show that we were not wrong, for, on turning to page 815 there will be found full particulars of Mr. Dickens's new periodical, *All the Year Round*, the first number of which will appear April 30th, and contain the first chapter of a new tale from the editor's pen. Mr. Wills continues at his post as Mr. Dickens's lieutenant, and all the writers willingly follow their chief. Therefore, in all but name, *Household Words*, like the course of empire, has taken its course westward, a central office being still retained in Wellington Street. The partnership in *Household Words*, between Messrs. Bradbury and Evans (who hold one-fourth) and Mr. Dickens, terminates in May.

WOODCUTS.—We strongly recommend such of our readers as are interested in the publication of illustrated works, to watch the progress of the movement for an amendment of the laws of artistic copyright, as proposed by the Society of Arts. It will be remembered that Lord Lyndhurst obtained a select committee of the House of Lords upon the subject last session. The protection for illustrations is far less certain and adequate than is generally supposed, and if the contemplated amendments are carried, the value of illustrations will be increased by better and cheaper remedies being given against the piracy of such works.

We likewise take this opportunity of correcting a popular error, of supposing that any copyright can be acquired in the *subject* of an engraving, which subject is common property; for example, if any one engraves a particular view of the New

Palace at Westminster, everybody is at liberty to engrave exactly the same view, provided only he does so from his own drawing, and not from any previous engraving in which the copyright has been duly secured.

POST OFFICE REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of the Post Office informs us that no alteration has been made, and none is contemplated, in the regulations at present existing with regard to the transmission of books, MSS., or works of art, sent by post from one part of the kingdom to another. The *Times* announced that from and after April 1 no book packet would be transmitted under a less postage than threepence—a statement altogether without foundation. A list of places has been issued to which the system of registering book packets for abroad applies—they *cannot be registered for foreign countries*.

THE *Saturday Review*, in its endeavours after powerful writing, has just been devoting two mortal columns to prove that the ravings of the "Friends of Human Rights, of Belfast" are dangerous, &c., &c., and ought to be &c., &c. The said "friends" turn out to be precisely three in number, and meet at an obscure coffee-house. The *Spectator* twits its powerful contemporary with its valour in this "three tailors of Tooley Street affair." About the *Spectator*: who would believe that this idol of Rintoul's would be devoting its formerly well-filled columns to disquisitions upon Fashions and Furniture, descanting on Lund's decanting machine, and puffing certain shops in the Boulevards—just like Jenkins or George Measom.

AUTHOR AND PUBLISHER!—A curious case between author and publisher has been before the Scotch courts. Some twenty-five years ago, it was arranged that Mr. Brodie, advocate, should for the sum of £500 prepare an edition of "Stair's Institutes of the Law of Scotland," for Mr. Clark, publisher. Mr. Clark declined payment on several grounds—viz., that he had a contra account for books furnished to the author to assist him in his labours,—that the author had not furnished an index, and that another party had been employed to provide that convenience,—that the author's corrections having been excessive, he was bound to pay one-half of their expense,—and that the author and his brother were liable in the expenses of an unsuccessful novel. The author pleaded that the books were charged at full price,—that an index was not necessary to a book,—and that he had not sanctioned the employment of a substitute to perform that operation,—that the corrections were not excessive,—and that he was not liable for the novel,—and that Mr. Clark having at his own hand consigned the unsold copies to the butter-merchant, had virtually shown the work to be his own property. The court, on appeal, refused to go into any proof, except on the first point about the contra account for books furnished, holding that there was no tangible correspondence or agreement as to the other matters; and the case has since been compromised. It is no doubt true that lawyers sometimes issue books without indices, as for instance one of the judges in this very case has an edition of the self-same Stair, which has no index; and "Burton's Scotch Criminal Trials," has neither contents nor index, but we are afraid that the weight of the Scotch bench will not induce the world to

believe that any scientific book is complete without an index, and that however humble may be the office, it is the duty of an author, in the absence of a contract to the contrary, to index himself, or see that the office is performed by some one else.

UNDERSELLING.—The few remarks made in our last number have had the effect of producing a host of letters from correspondents in every part of the country—Ireland, of course, always excepted, where bookselling appears to be stagnant. Some of these letters we have printed in a subsequent page, and recommend their attentive perusal, and in our next number will have a few words to say on the subject. Meantime we shall be happy to learn from our readers generally what they would recommend as a means of providing a remedy for what every one admits to be an evil. We believe that some steps may be taken which will go far in mitigation. The country trade may also take the month to consider whether any support should be given to such wholesale houses, if any be found that encourage the system.

Another matter we shall probably take up at the same time—viz., the unfair competition of the societies which publish and sell religious books. On one branch of this subject we are desirous of information. Do the Book-Hawking societies unfairly interfere with booksellers? Our own impression is that they do not. If a book-hawker be started, he takes his pack of books and offers them in many quarters where but for his own exertions no books would be seen or sold. So far he is fairly and legitimately a bookseller; but if the promoters of these societies, by means of their connection with them, procure books at trade price, they so far injure the tradesman. That the usefulness of the system of book-hawking is very much exaggerated we have no doubt, but booksellers owe it to their own supineness for room being left for the introduction of the system. If our readers will favour us with facts respecting the working of these societies, it may be useful.

Messrs. Edmonston & Co. have nearly ready a new edition of their "Instructive Picture Book." This book, though only designed as a high-class child's book, is a work of great merit, the illustrations of the different animals being remarkable for their fidelity. The present edition will contain upwards of a hundred drawings of Birds, Beasts, and Fishes, by Mrs. Blackburn, hitherto known only by her initials, "J. B.," as one of the most successful delineators of animal life. They have also in preparation a work of the same character, only the animals are represented with the view of giving instruction as to their distribution over the globe,—thus a party of hippopotami are shown revelling in the muddy bed of a river winding slowly through a flat, swampy stretch of country, the animals are represented in the water and on the land, some indulging in uncouth gambols, and others feeding on the luxuriant vegetation peculiar to the African tropics. This work is being edited by Sir William Jardine.

Messrs. Nutt and Williams & Norgate's reprint of the Vatican New Testament has also been a successful speculation. About seven hundred copies were subscribed for, and the remainder were very nearly all taken by the trade within a week of publication.

Another Richard is in the Boswell field: Mr. Washbourne announces Boswell's work complete, edited by Malone, in one neatly printed volume octavo, for five shillings. The same publisher has also reduced the price of Mas-singer's works to 7s. 6d.

BOOKSELLERS' PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—The annual general meeting was held at the Albion Tavern on the evening of the 10th inst., when the officers for the ensuing year were elected. The Report then read will be out before our next number appears, and we purpose then to give an abstract of it. The institution is a noble one, but somehow it does not appear to be in good odour with the trade, judging from the few new members who join it every year.

SCOTLAND.—It is remarkable what a contrast is exhibited between Dublin and Edinburgh in the way of bookselling and literary intelligence, —in the former, except a reprint of Moore and one or two minor publications, all is like the city of the plague; in the latter all is life and animation, not only rivalling London itself, but, in some respects, surpassing it. We have no map-publishers here equal to the Johnstons, no magazine equal to old Ebony, no cyclopædia equal to Black's, no current series of Theological works equal to Clark's, no series of poets to compare with Nichol's, no biography equal to Mackenzie's, and even in cheap serial literature the Chamberses continue to hold the first place. The Scottish lion may growl, but after all he is in the right quarter.

First in importance among announcements is a new illustrated edition of the Waverley Novels. Messrs. A. & C. Black propose the republication of the 48-volume edition of the novels from an entirely new type, and while retaining all the steel engravings in the previous edition, the present will be further enriched by upwards of a thousand woodcuts, many of them of great beauty, selected from the Abbotsford edition of the novels. These woodcuts are from drawings by eminent artists, to repeat the names of whom here would be to give a list of our greatest native artists, living and dead, of the century. The publishers have done well to reprint this the most popular edition of Scott's novels; and from the increased beauty of the typography (judging from specimens we have seen) which this edition will have over the last, the many additional illustrations, and the great and enduring fame of Sir Walter Scott, they may calculate on having a large and continuous demand. Messrs. R. & R. Clark, the printers of this edition and of the illustrated editions of Scott's poetry, and of many recent illustrated Christmas books, have earned a reputation second to none for the beauty and excellence of their presswork; and judging from what we have already seen of this work, it will not detract from their already high reputation. The volumes will cost four shillings and sixpence each, and will appear monthly; the first volume will be ready with the May magazines. The publishers expect to have the whole ready in eighteen months, when parties desiring to complete their sets will have an opportunity of doing so.

Messrs. Black have also ready a volume of "Occasional Papers," by Professor J. D. Forbes,

on the "Theory of Glaciers, with a Prefatory Note on the Recent Progress and Present Aspect of the Question." This volume will be certain to attract attention; for, notwithstanding the objections taken to the Professor's glacier theory, he is undoubtedly the highest authority we have on the subject. Messrs. Black also publish a third edition of Professor Bennet's "Clinical Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Medicine."

The same publishers have in the press a new and greatly enlarged edition of Professor Balfour's "Botany and Religion," a work which was very popular when first published.

Dr. Guthrie's two volumes of sermons, "The Gospel in Ezekiel," and "Christ the Inheritance of the Saints," are, we believe, both out of print, and new editions are at present in the press. Of the former work twenty thousand copies have been sold up to this time, and of the latter, which has only been published a few months, ten thousand. Both books, notwithstanding the sale of such large numbers, are still in active demand, although the latest published has not been so well received as the first either by the press or the public.

The Scottish Temperance League having become the proprietors, by gift, we believe, of Dr. Guthrie's other work, "The City, its Sins and Sorrows," have published a neat edition, to sell for a shilling. This work, which has been equally popular with the author's other works, when sold at a comparatively high rate, cannot fail, in the cheap form, to have an enormous sale.

Messrs. W. & R. Chambers will publish, in April, the first weekly number and monthly part of an "Encyclopædia," or "Dictionary of Universal Knowledge for the People," on the basis of the latest edition of the "German Conversations-Lexicon." This work, which has been in preparation for several years, will not merely be a translation and adaptation of the German work, but will contain a vast amount of matter not to be found there, and not properly within the scope of a German encyclopædia; and those articles in the German work which have been retained for this edition have undergone a thorough revision, in many cases have been entirely rewritten. It will be completed in seven volumes, uniform in size and appearance with "Chambers's Information for the People," and in the whole costing about fifty shillings. One feature especially deserves to be pointed out—viz., that it contains legal information, a branch of knowledge in which the middle classes are exceedingly deficient. The work is copiously illustrated. Messrs. Chambers say that this work "is for the mean time the crowning contribution of its editors to cheap literature."

At the present day, when the press is teeming with cheap literature, much of it of a high quality, many may have forgotten how much Messrs. Chambers have done, both as authors and publishers, for good literature. They entered the field when books, magazines, and newspapers were to a great extent beyond the reach of the masses, and they live to witness a supply and demand of good cheap literature, to both of which they have largely contributed, which must far exceed their most sanguine expectations when they submitted the first number of their Journal to the public. It gives us pleasure to note here that

Mr. Robert Chambers's work on the "Domestic Annals of Scotland" has reached a second edition, and we believe that he contemplates a third volume. A companion work on the Domestic Annals of England is also contemplated. In order to pursue his researches in southern history, Mr. Chambers will probably be induced to spend a considerable time in London. He has also just issued the first two parts of "Edinburgh Papers," the first on the buildings of that city, the second on the Edinburgh Merchants.

Messrs. Blackwood have published the concluding volume of Miss Strickland's "Lives of the Queens of Scotland," containing the lives of Elizabeth Stuart, Queen of Bohemia, and of her daughter Sophia, Electress of Hanover. The work is now complete in eight volumes. While all the volumes have been and will be extensively read, those most interesting are volumes III. to VII., containing the Life of Mary Stuart. These volumes are enriched with four engraved portraits of Mary, reduced from original and authentic portraits. The plates, which are beautifully executed, give evidence of that loveliness and beauty with which the hapless queen was so richly dowered. The sixth volume contains a portrait of her boy-husband, Darnley, with whose horrible end Miss Strickland attempts to prove that Mary had no complicity. How far she succeeds in this we shall not take upon us to say, but we feel certain that to those readers, whatever be their opinion on this question, who are familiar with the eventful life of the unfortunate queen, this attempt of Miss Strickland to relieve the memory of her heroine from the odium of such an unnatural charge will be viewed without prejudice. Mr. Thackeray must have learned, on the occasion of the delivery of his lecture on George I. in Edinburgh, from the storm of hisses which greeted his allusion to the existence of parties who did not believe in the guilt of Mary Stuart, that an audience in the capital of Scotland would not tolerate the bad taste which took the great satirist, in his love of antithesis, so far out his way as to drag Scotland's last queen and her sins and sorrows into a lecture on a member of the house of Hanover. This did not necessarily prove that there were many in that great audience who believed, with Professor Aytoun (whom Mr. Thackeray somewhat contemptuously alluded to as an Edinburgh poet), that Mary was innocent, but that with most of them the difficulty of her position, her friendlessness, her long imprisonment and bloody death, had softened even the imputations of such a crime.

Messrs. Blackwood have also nearly ready the eighth and last volume of Sir Archibald Alison's "History of Europe," from 1815 to 1852. No history was ever assailed with such a storm of hostile criticism as has greeted the appearance of volume after volume of this work, and, so far as their popularity is concerned, with comparatively little effect. The reason of this we take to be, that however far wrong in his theorizing on democracy, free trade, and sinking funds, &c., he is the most thoroughly honest and catholic of modern historians, for he does not willingly withhold any facts, or falsify any circumstance, even when such can be made to prove the absurdity of his own deductions. What a pity it is that his brilliant contemporary the Whig historian is not possessed of the same spirit: how unimportant it is that

Whiggery or Toryism should be upheld, compared with the inestimable value of honest history.

Messrs. Blackwood have published a new edition of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton's "What will he do with it?" in 4 vols. post 8vo.

The same publishers also announce the first number of a new edition of the late Professor Johnston's "Chemistry of Common Life," edited by George Henry Lewes, and uniform in size and price with Mr. Lewes's "Physiology of Common Life," three parts of which have appeared.

Messrs. Edmonstone and Douglas have published a translation of Dr. J. G. Kurr's work on minerals. The work is illustrated with 24 coloured plates, which are executed in Germany, each plate showing on an average from eight to ten drawings of different minerals. These drawings are without exception the most successful as to form and colour we have ever seen; with their aid the mineralogical student will make an eye acquaintance with the different mineral bodies second only to that derived from actual handling of specimens; and when we consider how few there are who have access to anything like a complete collection of such, the value of this book must be great indeed. These drawings will be valuable not only as illustrative of Dr. Kurr's text, but will prove a very effective aid to the study of our standard literature on the subject.

Admirers of "Quiet Hours," a deservedly popular religious book, by the Rev. John Pulsford, of Hull, will learn, with interest, that Mr. Jack, of Edinburgh, has a second series in the press. Mr. Jack has recently published a very neat reprint of a very good book by an old divine—"Apples of Gold for Young Men and Women," &c., by the Rev. Thomas Brooks. Dr. Tweedie, of Edinburgh, writes a preface commending the work and giving some biographical facts concerning the author.

Messrs. Oliphant & Co. published, during the month, new editions of two works by the Rev. Dr. Pye Smith, the names of which are, "Four Discourses on the Priesthood of Jesus Christ," "The Scripture Testimony of the Messiah," 2 vols.; also a new edition of "Opinions Concerning Jesus Christ," by the Rev. P. Davidson, Edinburgh.

Messrs. Hogg have published a small volume of biographies entitled, "Men Who have Risen."

Messrs. Blackie & Son have published a "Clerical Furlough, spent chiefly in the Holy Land," by the Rev. Dr. Buchanan.

From Messrs. Griffin, of Glasgow, we have a new edition of Dr. Bryce's "Library Gazetteer; or, Dictionary of Descriptive and Physical Geography."

Messrs. T. & T. Clark have published, during the month, "The Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ," by the Rev. Wm. Wilson, Dundee; also "Decisions on the Poor Law of Scotland in the Court of Session, and Awards by Arbitration," by Wm. Hay Winter.

Messrs. Bell & Bradfute publish a "Treatise on the Law of Stoppage in Transitu," by Thomas S. Paton, Advocate.

Messrs. Constable & Co. have added to their School Series "Book-keeping for the Class-room and Counting-house," by John Maclean. They have also ready, Hugh Miller's lectures, noticed in our last, entitled, "Sketch-book of Popular Geology."

THE CHETHAM SOCIETY.—We have before had occasion to speak in terms of commendation of the management of the Chetham Society of Manchester. The report read at their recent meeting shows that they have kept good faith with their subscribers by issuing all the volumes in good time. One of their latest issues—a Descriptive List of Tracts and Books on Popery—is a very important bibliographical work, edited by the Secretary of the Chetham Library: in our next issue we purpose describing its contents. The works contemplated or in progress are:—The Lancashire Lieutenantancy under the Tudors and Stuarts; Lancashire and Cheshire Wills, Second Part, edited by the Rev. G. J. Piccope; Catalogue of Tracts for and against Popery, in the Chetham Library, Second Part, edited by Mr. T. Jones; a Selection from Dr. John Byrom's unprinted Remains in Prose and Verse; a new Edition of Byrom's Poems, collected and published after his decease; Mamecestre, or Chapters from the early recorded History of the Barony, Manor, or Lordship, Town and Borough of Manchester; Worthington's Diary and Correspondence, concluding Part, edited by James Crossly, Esq.; Collectanea Anglo-Poetica; or Bibliographical Notices of some of the rarer Poetical Volumes in the Library of a Lancashire Resident; Miscellanies of the Chetham Society, Vol. III., edited by William Langton, Esq.; Nathan Walworth's Correspondence with Peter Seddon of Outwood, from 1628 to 1654, edited by R. S. Sowler, Esq.; Hollinworth's Mancuniensis, a new edition, edited by Canon Raines; Heraldic Visitations of Lancashire, edited by T. Dornig Hibbert, Esq.; and History of the Ancient Chapel of Stretford, in the Parish of Manchester, by the Rev. Joseph Clarke, Rector of Stretford. The work on the Lancashire Lieutenantancy, and that on the Lancashire and Cheshire Wills, are already half printed. The Society is about to undertake a general index to the first fifty volumes of its publications.

Messrs. Parker have commenced a series of Historical Tales for Churchmen, intended to illustrate the rise and progress of the Church system in England, which "will embrace the most important periods and transactions connected with the progress of the Church in ancient and modern times. They will be written by authors of acknowledged merit, in a popular style, upon sound Church principles, and with a single eye to the inculcation of a true estimate of the circumstances to which they relate, and the bearing of those circumstances upon the history of the Church. The series is to be conducted by a responsible editor, and it is intended that, when complete, it shall illustrate not only portions of the history of the Church in Great Britain, but also in her Colonies, in the different countries of Europe, and in the East. The extent of the series must, of course, greatly depend upon the favour and support accorded to it by the public." Amongst others, we hear that the Rev. F. E. Paget, the Rev. E. Monro, the Rev. W. E. Heygate, the Rev. J. M. Neale, and several other well-known writers, are contributors.

Routledge's Illustrated Natural History has made its appearance, and, judging from the first part, it is a success. Anticipating a large sale, they printed twenty thousand copies, and expect soon to be obliged to go to press again.

Messrs. Virtue & Co., proprietors of Bartlett's works on the Holy Land, expose a gross piece of Yankee dodgery in connection with Dr. Barclay's "City of the Great King," some of the plates of which are copied from Bartlett's work, not only without acknowledgment, but are stated to be from original photographs. Is there no public opinion in America to deter people from such acts of petty larceny?

We understand that Mr. Blackwood still continues to supply Collins's Cheap Series, and has always a stock on hand for the supply of the trade; several of the volumes are now reprinting, and will be issued shortly in a new style. Having bought the stereotype plates of Collins's Series for the Young, we believe he intends to re-issue them, with other new works by popular authors, in a new dress, under the general title of the "Juvenile Railway Library."

Mr. William Longman has turned lecturer, and has just published the first of a series of lectures on the history of England, illustrated with numerous cuts. It exhibits a considerable knowledge of his subject, and a happy mode of treatment—popular, yet not beneath the notice of intelligent rustics. It was delivered at Chorleywood, Herts, and has been printed for distribution amongst the labourers belonging to the local association.

MR. KIDD'S "GOSSIPS."—Mr. William Kidd, the veteran bookseller and publisher, whose "trade" education was commenced in 1821, at the house of Baldwin, Cradock, & Joy, has quitted the ranks and mounted the rostrum. He finds it better to take his fees in "ready money," we suppose, than to run the risks inseparable from underselling and "long credit." He is giving "gossiping" entertainments on matters of social interest, all over the country, and evidently enjoying the *otium cum dignitate*. No doubt this is a very rational way of spending one's time, and when pleasure and business can be thus united, who would not follow so agreeable an occupation? Mr. Kidd's experience with booksellers, publishers, and the public must furnish him with many a racy anecdote, which he doubtless tells with a *naïveté* attaching to his character. The gracious reception he receives wherever he goes must, we are sure, be highly gratifying to his feelings. We see he publishes still, but by deputy. Messrs. Groombridge & Sons, who are his aides-de-camp, have just issued a new edition of his charming little book on the Canary Bird, which, we believe, is the standard work on this subject.

We suppose we have some juvenile readers; if so, they will thank us for telling them of a work which will delight them as it comes out month by month, and when bound up in a volume at the year's end will bear reading over again—it is *Kingston's Magazine for Boys*, published by Bosworth, of Regent-street. The first number contains the beginning of a tale by the editor, who is so well known as a writer of books for the young; this is called the "Three Midshipmen," and the woodcut at the commencement of it illustrates a very ludicrous accident that befell one of them. "First Impressions of India," "Dick Onslow and the Red Skins," are also very interesting. Then there is a chapter on Pigeons, and several other chapters, serving to make up the first number of a magazine which the young will like and the elders will approve.

CORRESPONDENCE.

UNDERSELLING.

"Sir,—Thank you for your plain-speaking on the subject of underselling books in your last number. If you favour me with space, I think I shall make it clear to you that here in Edinburgh, and generally throughout Scotland, we suffer as much from this pernicious system as our brethren in the south. In Edinburgh, where there is a large population in comparatively easy circumstances, a university, and many educational institutions, books are in large demand, and as a consequence bookselling talks largely among the trades in our city. We have booksellers in plenty, and one half of them, at least, do an amount of business sufficient to yield a very handsome return, if they realized on their business transactions anything like the amount of profit represented by the difference between the selling and cost price of their stock; but this cannot be done here, nor in Glasgow, nor in Aberdeen, nor in any of our larger towns where books are in considerable demand; indeed, in bookselling, full price is the exception and ruinous discounts the rule. I believe I am within the mark when I say that at least two-thirds of the number of books sold in Edinburgh are sold on a profit of from 5 to 15 per cent.

"I shall give you the history of the sale of one book, and shall not go far back for an example, and shall take leave to cite a book by name. Sir Wm. Hamilton's Lectures were published about a month ago, selling price 24s. The work was offered to the trade at the usual subscription rates. On the day of publication copies of the work, I believe, might have been purchased at 20s. in any shop in town. When I was an apprentice the only parties who got discount to that amount were clergymen, teachers, and students; now-a-days if a bookseller does not wish to allow his customers to go to his neighbour's shop, he must give discount at this rate to all who ask it. A few days ago it was reduced in what are known as the cheap shops to 18s 6d., in consequence of one of their number having stolen a march on them, and disposed of a number of copies at that rate. Of course it got quickly known to many purchasers of the work at 20s., that it could now be had at 18s. 6d., and I have heard of more than one party who called on his bookseller and demanded restitution of the eighteenpence which he conceived he had been overcharged—in each case, I believe, without success. Now, this is not by any means an isolated case. I appeal to the Edinburgh trade if the same thing does not occur with almost every popular book published during the season.

"As I do not think that a mere statement of facts of this kind can do any good, I shall proceed to show who I think are the parties responsible for the existence of this practice; and should such a plain mode of dealing with this question call for remonstrance from any party who may choose to think himself compromised, I shall be glad, as I think this is a subject which is very much in want of ventilation.

"I am not old enough to give you the history and causes of underselling in Edinburgh and elsewhere from its beginning, from my own experience and observation, for I believe under-

selling was practised to some extent here forty years ago; but I assert, as the result of my experience and observation here and elsewhere in Scotland, that those retail booksellers who deal in second-hand books are at present the parties keeping up this system. Go into any of our large towns, and if you are told that books cannot be sold save at a ruinous discount, be sure that there you will find a dealer in second-hand books. I am not asserting that there are not dealers in second-hand books who are desirous of keeping up the price of new books, nor that there are not retailers of purely new books who willingly undersell, for I know there are such; and I also know that there are towns where there is no second-hand bookseller, where books are very much undersold; but this does not affect my position at all, for the facilities of transmission by post and rail are now so rapid and cheap that book-buyers can get books at the lowest Edinburgh or Glasgow rate of discount sent to any part of the country at a price, including carriage, much lower than he can buy from his own bookseller at home. The consequence of this is that country booksellers are compelled to sell at prices which they know leave them little or no margin, or cease to sell books at all.

"I have been frankly told, by more than one second-hand bookseller, that new books did not pay them at the rates at which they sell, and that they depended for their returns on their dealings in second-hand books; and it must be so, for, having a pretty accurate notion of their profits in most cases, I would say that their profits on new books ranged from 10 to 15 per cent., while the profit on second hand books is from 15 to 50 per cent.

"It is worthy of note that the second-hand booksellers, while agreeing to sell new books at the same ruinous rate, which in most cases is such that the retailer of merely new books cannot compete with them, agree to sell second-hand books at prices widely different; thus, while a new book may be bought in half a dozen different shops at the same reduced rate, the price of almost any particular second-hand book in the same shops will vary from 20 to 50 per cent.

"The second-hand bookseller may retort on me by saying that in Edinburgh and Glasgow some retailers of new books offer books at as low a figure as they do, and this is undoubtedly true; but who brought about this? I say the second-hand booksellers here; do they not, with one or two exceptions, make a practice of selling books at twopence a shilling discount unasked, and in many cases, as I have shown above, at even much lower rates? And as this is well known to most book-buyers, need we wonder that the retailer is compelled to follow suit, and sell at prices which he knows are not sufficiently remunerative?

"The country bookseller also suffers considerably from a most reprehensible practice on the part of some publishers, namely, the advertising their publications free by post. Our more respectable publishers do not do this, and it is to be hoped that they will never resort to a mode of doing business so discreditable and so unfair to their legitimate customers, the retail booksellers.

"The result of a continuance of such a state of

matters as I have shown above can be easily foreseen; the calibre of the booksellers as a class must sink, men of intelligence will not connect themselves with a business which makes such a poor return for energy and capital. I know a good many retail booksellers who, in almost any other business, could not fail, while yet young, to acquire a moderate independence, who have nothing before them, as booksellers, but a life of incessant toil, that knows little or no relaxation, and in most cases results in nothing more than a bare livelihood.

"It is useless to blame the public for this; they very naturally buy in the cheapest market, and if a very cheap market did not exist, they would be unable to make the retail bookseller abate his honest charge by a reference to his neighbour's prices. I believe the booksellers are themselves to blame, and the second-hand bookseller most of all, as, in consequence of his large profits in his second-hand stock, he can, by selling cheap, use new books as decoy-ducks to draw book buyers to his shop. There is no way of preventing his doing this, unless by exposing the system and bringing the feeling of the trade to bear on it; and I would call on all retail booksellers who know and suffer from the system not to stand aloof should this fair statement of the evil and its consequences call for remonstrance or denial on the part of those parties who are really responsible for the present condition of the book trade as a remunerative business.

"I do not apologise for occupying so much of your space, as this is a subject vitally important to all your readers.—I am, &c.

"AN EDINBURGH (RETAIL) BOOKSELLER.

"Edinburgh, March 15, 1859."

UNDERSELLING.

"Dear Sir,—Your reflections on the *twopence in the shilling* system, in the last number of THE BOOKSELLER, must commend themselves to the judgment of every retail bookseller throughout London.

"The question, What can be done to impede the certain ruin which must follow such recklessness? should certainly be answered quickly by those parties who have it in their power to avert a calamity so great, namely, the *Publishers*.

"I would, by way of suggestion only, just venture to give as my own opinion upon the subject, that the publishers should adopt one of two courses, as follow:—

"First, to continue the present allowance to the trade, but to exclude any house from such advantages who publishes to the world in the public papers, or any other mode of advertising, that they take a discount off copyright publications within a period of — months after publication.

"The second course is, for the publishers to reduce the subscription price on every new work, being copyright, within — months after publication, from what is usual to 15 per cent.; and I believe that this, or one very similar course, is the only resource left for a gradually decaying but once highly respectable profession.

"I am, Sir, yours, &c.

"London.

"A SUBSCRIBER."

UNDERSELLING.

"My dear Sir,—I have just finished reading the article on underselling, in the last number of THE BOOKSELLER, and cannot help mentioning how very much I sympathize with the sentiments it expresses. I can assure you, I daily feel the force and the truth conveyed in them.

"I have now stood behind a counter for thirty years, and say *Amen* to every word the writer says. Booksellers are expected to have all the wisdom, and learning, and information of professional gentlemen of the first class, but need to look for nothing else than the remuneration and treatment of the merest tradesman—and, worst of all, this is all owing to their own fault.

"My dear Sir, yours most truly,

"Edinburgh, March 9th.

"J. M."

ASSUMED COPYRIGHT IN AMERICAN WORKS.

"Sir,—Within the last few weeks an advertisement has appeared in several literary journals, in which Messrs. Low & Son inform the public that although various periodicals have commenced to reprint Mrs. Stowe's new tale, 'The Minister's Wooing,' none of them will be able (the more expressive word 'allowed' ought to have been used) to complete it.

"Can any of your numerous, and I may say interested, readers inform me what *legal* right Messrs. Low & Son have to make such an intimation? The tale is at present being published in the *Atlantic Monthly*, the well-known new American magazine, printed at Boston, and, as such, in the existing state of the law, or rather want of law, is common property in England (when the authorship of any article in question has been determined) to any who may choose to use it. I can understand Messrs. Low being supplied with early sheets, and having thereby an advantage over those who have to wait for the *Atlantic*, but I am rather obtuse as to the ultimate legality of the prohibition.

"The Autocrat of the Breakfast Table' first appeared in the same magazine, and it has been reprinted in this country without intimidation; but in America it is copyright. Why is the line drawn between Dr. Holmes and Mrs. Stowe?

"It is well known that the *Atlantic* staff is composed of both Americans and Europeans; but that fact, from the analogous case of the 'Autocrat,' &c., does not appear to be sufficient to secure the copyright in both countries.

"Mrs. Stowe is an American lady, who publishes an original tale in an American magazine; by doing so the patent is secured for America, but on what legal ground is a monopoly claimed for this country also?

"The similar management of the same lady's 'Sunny Memories' was successful in maintaining the field against any would-be competitors for a season, but not ultimately.

"Setting aside all question as to the moral right or wrong of the subject, and with all due respect towards Mrs. Stowe, I really cannot understand why an exception to the law of both countries should be made or allowed in one case more than in any other; and, so far as I can remember, I do not recollect the same plan being tried in any other instance.

"I have not the slightest intention of printing

the tale in question; my object in writing to you being solely for the purpose of clearing up a doubt that possesses the minds of many others along with your obedient servant,

"A BOOKSELLER.

"London, E.C., March 18th."

[We presume that the answer to this is, that

Mrs. Stowe intends to revisit this country before long, and while here the work will be completed; that portion will be copyright so long as she remains in this country, and, according to a legal decision, for the usual term afterwards. We doubt whether this decision would stand good if the question were properly tried—ED. BOOKSELLER.]

OUR LITERARY JOURNALS.

No. II.—OUR LITERARY JOURNALS.

As observed in our last number, the national mind, which had been so entirely engrossed by the events of a stupendous war, had, by the peace of 1814-15, and the re-establishment of order consequent thereon, passed into a condition favourable to the cultivation and expansion of literature. It was, therefore, a good fortune on the part of Mr. Colburn to take the initiative of a new course in the furtherance of this desideratum. Within little more than a year—viz., March 29, 1818, the example of the *Literary Gazette* was first followed by the publication of a similar weekly sheet, entitled *The Literary Journal and General Miscellany*, published on Sunday in the Strand, and at the price, unstamped, of sixpence. In July it was announced to be ready on Saturday; and another project was tried, commencing with No. 5—viz., a Monday stamped edition, under the title of the *Literary Chronicle*, and at the cost of ninepence (afterwards raised to tenpence) for country circulation. The editor and chief writer was Mr. E. A. Kendall, and the main stand of the paper was upon antiquarian subjects—such as the Wager of Battle, at that time a popular question in consequence of the appeal to the old law by Ashford v. Thornton—and other topics of a retrospective cast. The articles were ably treated, but at great length, running through many numbers, and there were usually several pages of rather indifferent poetry. In other respects it trod closely on the path opened by the *Literary Gazette*, and gave its constant attention to the passing arts and sciences. The *Chronicle* became the property of Mr. Davison, printer, was an honest, painstaking publication, and lasted many years. Indeed, generally speaking, it may be truly stated that the majority of the weekly literary productions, following in the track of the *Gazette*, were, and continue to be, respectable and wholesome. Occasionally liable to abuse, and always to error, in consequence of the rapidity of their preparation, but guiltless of such demoralizing hot-spiced tales and romances as deform the more mongrel forms of their contemporaries, and unsettle the minds of the lower classes of readers, if they have not the power to corrupt society. Some of these are very bad, stabbing the vital parts of education, and converting a blessing into a curse. But the worst and most poisonous are not to be compared with the rank atrocities of the "unweeded garden" of bygone times, and which prevailed to an extent to choke and overgrow much of the useful vegetation. The more modern rascally crop of Sunday newspapers, which lived on the extortion of bribes from the timid and cowardly, has been rooted out, as, before it, had sprung up and disappeared a different but equally vile succession of weekly publications, which, under various repulsive titles, stunk in the

nostrils among the fair flowers of literature. As connected with our historical sketch, we may briefly glance at a few specimens of these obnoxious effluences. There were *The Blow Fly*, by Molloy, the *soi-disant* Charles Westmacott (afterwards so famous, or infamous, in *The Age*), and the *Gazette of Fashion*, from the same worthy source, the entire contents of which consisted of slanderous personalities and abuse. Then there was *The Ass*. Nothing could be more deserving of the name, only that it scattered thistles instead of eating them, which lasted several months, published by G. Cowie & Co., Paternoster Row and Fetter Lane (not of the Poultry). It was blackguard and filthy, and ran amuck at all classes, from peers and politicians to players and authors and artists of the humblest grade. *The Wasp* (published by W. Jeffreys, York Street, Covent Garden) was contemporaneous, and purported to be "a brisk, stinging insect." It was not so comprehensively slanderous, nor quite so dirty, but its buzz was hardly distinguishable from the bray of its communist associate. There were also, alike in ignominy and infamy, *The Scorpion* (published by Jeffreys), of the same scurrilous genus; *The Viper*, another venomous reptile; *The Scourge*, which should justly have been laid on the writers' backs at the cart's tail; the *Bon Ton Magazine*, of the lowest description of slang and indecency; and others equally malignant, crawling, and disgusting. The latter two were done by Jack Mitford, of whom so true and graphic an account is given in Andrew's "History of British Journalism," just published. The infatuated wretch died in the utmost misery, one of the saddest examples ever given of depraved talent. It is a manifest improvement in the spirit of the press that we have no such disgraceful papers now. There may be, and are, matters to censure in some of the present issues, to which we may advert hereafter; but the general tone is so reputable and the intent so praiseworthy that errors and shortcomings should be viewed without severity even where the condiments provided for the public appetite are of a rather deleterious quality. The balance of the good is, moreover, to be gratefully acknowledged on the favourable side of the actual account. But to return to our muttons. The *Literary Review*, a very respectable journal, conducted on similar principles to the *Chronicle*, had a similar permanency, and never reached a remunerative circulation. The *Somerset House Gazette* was very neatly got up, and devoted itself almost entirely to the Fine Arts; but found, though much enriched by the lucubrations of Wine and Walnuts Pyne, that the Fine Arts alone never supported any periodical—a point to be marked as demonstrating that all such schemes must be combined with some other branch or branches, such as machinery, furniture, pottery, or other of the useful adjuncts connected with the

application of taste and a sense of beauty to their composition. *The Museum*, more light and fanciful than its compeers, was edited by W. J. Graham, a gentlemanly and well-accomplished writer, who had, however, to seek an asylum in America, where he was soon after killed, it might be said slaughtered, in a duel. Another remarkable writer belongs to this epoch—namely, Wainwright the poisoner, who first led the way to strychnine in this country, and contributed to the journals, as well as to the *London Magazine*. He was a fellow of infinite pretension, as of considerable talent, and might be deemed the prototype of an imitative class, who affected puppyism (*alias* ultra-fashionable habits and manners) in their writings; who described how they sat down to scribble in rooms Turkey-carpeted, on satin ottomans, with wax lights, silver inkstands, golden pens, and a hundred other perfumed fopperies, which, at first, with Wainwright's ease and facility, amused as pictures of high rank or effeminate life, but by inferior iteration became frivolous and wearisome to the last degree, as their still weaker and degenerate followers are at the present time. Like Mrs. Turner of the yellow ruff fashion, who was hanged anent the murder of Sir Thomas Overbury, our leader of this modern school of literary dressing (who characteristically said of himself, "I was born for the luxuries not the necessities of life"), got condemned for felony; but, more lucky than the unfortunate lady (whose guilt, by the way, is historically very doubtful), was only transported for arson, escaping the charge for murders by their being undiscovered at the time of his trial. To compare great things with small, it was as if he had been blamed for plagiarism instead of being whipped for book-stealing! The *Beacon* was another of the fertile crop which has gone on perishing with the season, springing up from year to year, and spreading under variety of culture, till we witness the mixed *flora* of '59. It put forth large pretensions to independence—that independence which often consists in calumniating others, but which rarely succeeds in establishing itself; and so the *Beacon* fire went out without scorching its neighbours or adequately alarming the public against the invaders of its just and critical rights. The *Critic*, also, commenced in 1833, price 4d., and was wroth with publishers who did not at once admit its claims. It was nearly all reviews and literary selections. In the third number was a grand cutting-up of Mr. Disraeli's "Wondrous Tale of Alroy," and the general tone of the fault-discovering class. But for piracy the most disgraceful, provoked by the success of the *Literary Gazette*, and competition which turned out to be the most prosperous, were the *New Literary Gazette*, projected by Mr. Smith, then a publisher in St. James' Street, and the *Athenæum*, set on foot by Mr. Silk Buckingham. The former was a barefaced copy, so that externally it was difficult to distinguish the original from it; but internally it wanted stamina, and speedily sank into the gulf which gapes to swallow all spurious impostures. Not so the latter. The abilities of Mr. Buckingham gave it at once a sufficient claim to a fair public trial; and the false cry (much more industriously and skilfully propagated afterwards) that the *Literary Gazette* was the tool of certain publishers, obtained for it a willing ear in many quarters. Its literature, information, and conduct

were also of a very meritorious description. It failed, however, to attract the needful encouragement, though it is stated that at one time Mr. Colburn, in a huff with the editor of the *Gazette* for censuring some of his publications, purchased a considerable share, and lost a considerable sum in conjunction with his more obliging ally—"so much for Buckingham." Both the *Chronicle* and the *Athenæum* were about the same time offered to the proprietors of the *Literary Gazette*, but they were not disposed to buy up rivalry *pour encourager les autres*. It was the fortune of the last to meet with a competent purchaser in Mr. Dilke, who, from holding a situation in a government office, had turned his attention to literary enterprise, and embarked (Mr. Thomas, printer, and certain shareholders), with all his ability and business habits, in this hitherto unproductive concern. It was accordingly well and adroitly managed, but still the *Literary Gazette* kept possession of the field it had made for itself, and the *Athenæum* only struggled perseveringly on, determined to work its way; and at length the opportunity arrived. Mr. Dilke, with a happy estimate of the economic spirit of the age, bethought him of the expedient of reducing the price from a shilling to eightpence; and the prosperity of his paper was established, to increase and improve under various additional impulses. There are two different spirits in the practice of criticism: the one is to foster and encourage efforts, however humble and perhaps unpromising, in the hope that they may be improved and lead to better things; the other is to nip and discourage such attempts, on the ground that they can lead to no good end, and only serve to choke meritorious production by a superabundant growth of useless weeds. The principle on which the *Literary Gazette* proclaimed itself to be founded ranked it in the former class, though it was often enough arraigned for a contrary indulgence in derision and censure; and the *Athenæum* (as opposed to this journal) resolved to act more decidedly upon the latter plan. And no doubt this is a sure way to attract attention, which you may rivet afterwards by desert. People generally enjoy censure more than praise. It is easier, too, and the enjoyment does not so much arise from malevolence as from its being generally more amusing. Nor must the writer be always deemed one of those who conceal "private malice under the cloak of public watchfulness." On the contrary, many consider this painful course to be a duty, and the just construction must entirely depend upon the extent to which and the manner in which the duty is performed. These general reflections apply to the whole circle of periodical literature in reviewing and criticising the productions of mind; and the question, whether it is better, as affecting the true interests of literature and the public, to risk the wrong which may flow from sparing or even patting mediocrity; or the converse, cutting up the immature and indifferent, that they may not cumber the soil, remains to be determined in *foro conscientiæ*.

But as we have to renew our theme, and desire to avoid a direct application of the foregoing remarks, by placing names and publications in close juxtaposition with them, we shall for the present break off—considering comparisons odious, and offensive criticism a stretch beyond the privilege of either Dacier or Dogberry.

NOTICES OF BOOKS.

Munimenta Gildhallæ Londoniensis. Edited by H. T. Riley, M.A., Clare Hall, Cambridge; of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-law. In three volumes. Vol. I. containing *Liber Albus*, compiled A.D. 1419; with two illuminated fac-simile pages, a descriptive and historical introduction, and a Summary of the Contents. Longmans. Royal 8vo, 8s. 6d. half-bound.

AN eminent foreigner who visited this country for the purpose of investigating them has remarked that the Corporation of London possesses "a collection of archives more ancient and more complete than any other city in the world." The shelves of the muniment room at Guildhall are laden with documents embodying much of the contemporary history of this country for the space of six hundred years. Notwithstanding the interesting nature of these records, they have hitherto excited but little attention, nor would they now have been brought to light, but for the Master of the Rolls having the good judgment to include some portion of them among the series of works now in course of publication by direction of her Majesty's Government. We must also congratulate the Master of the Rolls upon his choice of Mr. Riley to pursue the investigation pointed out. This volume is one that reflects great credit upon all the parties engaged in its production. The original has been carefully transcribed and omissions judiciously supplied; a carefully compiled introduction, extending to 131 pages, puts the English reader into possession of the contents of the book, while a running index is supplied all through.

The *Liber Albus* is an elaborate compilation, made under the supervision of John Carpenter, Town Clerk (or rather, "Common Clerk") of the City of London, in the reign of Henry V. The First Book is devoted chiefly to an account of the various civic offices and dignities, the ceremonies and formalities connected therewith, and the modes of election, from the earliest times of which, in Carpenter's day, any records were known to exist; many of the local laws, too, and usages, that were in existence in those times are commented upon or brought to the reader's notice. The Second Book contains an analysis of the various charters granted to the City of London by successive sovereigns, from William the Conqueror to Henry V. The Third Book (which, divided into four parts, embraces nearly one half of the work) treats almost wholly of fiscal regulations, sumptuary laws, and ordinances relative to various trades and mysteries; indeed it may be said, as noticed in the editor's introduction, to throw a very considerable amount of (hitherto obscured or absolutely buried) light upon social and civic life in England during the 13th and 14th centuries, under the following phases:—houses, fuel, builders and building materials, streets and street regulations, river and police regulations, hostellers and lodging-house keepers, brewers and taverners, ale and wines, bread and bakers, corn-dealers, millers, cooks and pastellers, fishmongers and fish, butchers and butchers' meat, poulterers and poultry, food and miscellaneous articles of consumption, clothing and clothiers,

fripperers, shoemakers and furriers, commerce in general, imports and exports, offences, punishments, and the internal regulations of prisons.

The above subjects, as more or less illustrated in the pages of the work, are minutely passed in review by the editor in his introduction, in addition to which, he has given a detailed account of the original work, with a sketch of the other Guildhall compilations of an early date.

The Second Volume of the *Munimenta Gildhallæ* will comprise such portions of the *Liber Custumarum* and *Liber Horn*, also preserved at Guildhall, and belonging to the early part of the fourteenth century, as have not been extracted by the Editors of the "Statutes of the Realm," the New "Fœdera," &c.; and the Third Volume will contain a translation of the numerous passages in early French with which these volumes abound, a Glossary, and an Index.

Spenser's Poetical Works.—Vol. I., containing the *Faërie Queen*, Books I. II. Edited by the Rev. Geo. Gilfillan. Edinburgh: Nichol.

WE are disposed to think that the editor has been successful in his attempts to popularize Spenser, and that he has done so without either impairing the beauty of the language or detracting from the value of the poem. In modernizing the spelling, printing *i* for *y*, omitting the redundant vowels, &c., no more has been done to Spenser than has been done to every other author; but we think the editor might have gone still further, and in the first stanza might have left out one *d* in *ycladd*, and have given "joust" instead of "giust." But in not doing so he has erred on the right side, for we must confess that we looked forward to the appearance of this volume with some apprehension, lest the reforming mania should have seized upon the editor to the alarming extent of making Spenser quite modern. He has done nothing of the kind, and Spenser himself would be grateful for the gentle treatment he has received. Of Spenser as an author we have now nothing to say. At some future time we may point out what we consider to be his claims as a poet upon our attention; and therefore now confine ourselves to the specialities of this edition. This, the first of five volumes in which Spenser will be completed, is a handsome volume of 324 pages, well printed in pica type, on good paper, and neatly done up in cloth; and the five volumes, with the first of Gay's poems, are given to subscribers of one guinea. If we read the advertisement correctly, any one may subscribe for a single year's books, through any bookseller, who will deliver them free of expense. At this rate Mr. Nichol's are, without exception, the cheapest series of poets ever produced. Vol. II. will contain a life of the author by Gilfillan.

An Essay on Classification. By Louis Agassiz. 8vo. Longmans.

A REVIEW of the classification of the whole animal kingdom, designed as a text-book of reference for the student, in which he may find all that has been accomplished in the various departments of natural history, and which shows not only what has been done, but also what remains to be accomplished in the field of investigation.

The work contains an exposition of the general views the distinguished author has arrived at, thus far, in his studies of natural history. The following passage, from the preface, will speak home to our obstructive educationists. It will be remembered that Professor Agassiz has made the United States his adopted home:—"I must beg my European readers to remember that this work is written in America, and more especially for Americans, and that the community to which it is particularly addressed has very different wants from those of the reading public in Europe. There is not a class of learned men here, distinct from the other cultivated members of the community. On the contrary, so general is the desire of knowledge, that I expect to see my book read by operatives, by fishermen, by farmers, quite as extensively as by the students of our colleges, or by the learned professions, and it is but proper that I should endeavour to make myself understood by all."

The Laird of Norlaw. By the author of "Mrs. Margaret Maitland," &c. Hurst & Blackett. In three vols. 12mo. 31s. 6d.

"THE Laird of Norlaw" does no discredit to its parentage, and this is saying a great deal for its merit.

The plot of the story has nothing remarkably original or striking in it. The author's *forte* does not lie in the art of complicating and unravelling perplexities. It is by the felicitous beauty of her sketches of domestic life, by the truth of her descriptions of natural scenery, and by the nice grace of her studies of character, rather than by the brilliancy or subtlety of her imagination, that she interests the reader so strongly in her narration. The first eight chapters of the book are worth more than the whole three volumes of a great many novels. The picture of the house of mourning lying in its still gloom amidst the glory of the summer light, the death-bed scene, the description of the lonely Sabbath of the three fatherless brothers, and that of the secret midnight funeral, are all instinct with a sad life, of which no heart will fail to acknowledge the power.

There are three personages in the tale who are sure to win general and especial favour—Mrs. Livingstone of Norlaw, and her youngest son and his friend. The "Mistress," with her strong mind, deep feelings, impetuous temper, and tenderness, is a particularly satisfactory and attractive delineation; and if Cosmo, with his poetry and his fervour, is less completely natural, he is no less completely lovable. The character of the proud, devoted Highlander, has, perhaps, higher qualities than either of the others; but it is less finished.

A Child's Warfare; or, the Conquest of Self. By Madeline E. Hewer. Seeley & Co. 3s. 6d.

MANY families, when there are children of both sexes, find some difficulty with one member of it, and that member a boy. Such was the family spoken of in this admirable little volume, which also shows how the unruly member who caused so much trouble to his parents, and so much disquiet to his sisters, learned that difficult task, how to conquer self—a task which was not learned in a day. As a tale, apart from the lesson it conveys, it will be read with interest.

Calendar of English State Papers, Domestic Series, of the Reign of James the First, 1623—1625, preserved in the State Paper Department of Her Majesty's Public Record Office. Edited by Mrs. Everett Green. Longmans. Imperial 8vo. 15s.

Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, of the Reign of Charles I., 1627, 1628, preserved in the State Paper Department of Her Majesty's Public Record Office. Edited by John Bruce, Esq., V.P.I.A. Longmans. Imperial 8vo. 15s.

"THE first volume concludes the Calendar of Domestic State Papers for the reign of James I., reaching the period of those of Charles I., which are in process of publication under the editorship of Mr. Bruce. They contain details of the Spanish match; its conditions in favour of Popery, yielded to by the King, but concealed as much as possible from the people; the return of the Prince; the rapid unveiling of Spanish treachery; the rupture of the match; and the progress of similar but less hollow-hearted negotiations for a marriage with France are given at considerable length. The Parliament of 1624, in which the current of courtly feeling being anti-Spanish, coincided with the strong popular enthusiasm against Spain, gave rise to a cordiality between the Crown and the House of Commons which makes it stand alone in the reign. The particulars of this Parliament are given at length in the letters of Sir Francis Nethersole, Sir Edward Conway, jun., and Dudley Carleton. A series of documents, important for local history, will be found in the indentures and lists of troops sent from many of the southern counties, for the ill-planned and worse-conducted expedition of Count Mansfeldt to the Palatinate; and the ravages and disorders of the half-starved and ill-paid soldiers, before their departure from the shores of England, are painfully depicted in the papers of December 1624. Among the incidental papers may be mentioned three letters from James Maitland, son of Wm. Maitland, laird of Sethington, to the King, Prince, and Conway, containing accounts of the sufferings of his family on behalf of Mary Queen of Scots; and also a restraint by the King on the publication of Camden's life of that queen until additional particulars shall have been added."

"The period embraced by Mr. Bruce's present volume," the editor remarks, "was one of great activity and interest. England, at war with both France and Spain, was engaged, either as principal or ally, in hostile operations which extended from the Canary Islands to the Baltic. This busy interval comprised a searching inquiry into the state of the navy, conducted by special commissioners; the collection of a general loan, levied by other special commissioners appointed in every county; military assistance sent to the King of Denmark under the command of Sir Charles Morgan; the Duke of Buckingham's expedition to the Isle of Rhé; contemplated measures for raising still further sums of money by the exercise of the royal authority." The expedition to Rhé is the great event of the volume. The preparations, departure, landing, and management; the siege of the citadel of St. Martin; its final abandonment; and the return to England of the shattered relics of the expeditionary army, are detailed with a minuteness which brings out and establishes the facts with the greatest possible certainty.—*Longman's Notes on Books.*

The Prince of the House of David; or, Three Years in the Holy City. Edited by Professor J. H. Ingraham. Arthur Hall, Virtue, & Co. 5s.

GENERALLY speaking, we do not regard with much favour stories based upon holy Scripture, thinking it much better that the young should derive their knowledge of the Bible from the volume itself. But we not only see no objection to the work before us, but much to commend. It consists of a number of letters supposed to be written by a Jewish maiden, Adina, to her father, Manasseh Benjamin, an Alexandrine Jew, a descendant of one of the LXX. She left Egypt upon a visit to the land of her fathers, and reached Jerusalem about three years before the death of Christ. All the proceedings connected with our Lord's ministry, and with that of John the Baptist, are fully detailed, and all the various accessories described. The writer tells us of the Jewish dwellings, manners, and customs of the period; the state of popular religion; the families of Elizabeth, Joseph, Mary, and Martha; the opinions of the people as, they were expressed on the trial and execution, resurrection, and Ascension. And we are promised a second volume, telling us about the spread of Christianity. Seldom have we been so well pleased with a religious story, or have seen one that we could so confidently recommend as a gift or reading book for children.

Lord John Russell's Life of Charles James Fox. Vol. I. Bentley. 10s. 6d.

THERE were two ways of writing Fox's life, which would have been worthy of the man, the orator, and the statesman. As Hallam, who, had he written the history, would have given us the results of many years' careful reading, in a memoir which would decisively and for ever have settled the position of the remarkable man under notice; or, following Macaulay's plan, we might have had him represented as a hero—every fault covered over or made to shine like a virtue, and every virtue made to exhibit tints and hues of brilliancy before unobserved. Lord John Russell has done neither. The memoir of which the first volume has appeared is neither worthy of Fox nor his small follower; it is just such a memoir as any member of the House, familiar with the history of the times, and who had moved amongst some of the men described, could have written; and we doubt whether even Lord John himself would not have written it better if he were still a subaltern. He writes as one who wishes to speak with authority, but does not speak with enough dignity to ensure attention. The volume only comes down to the end of the American War.

Ridley on the Holy Communion. A New Edition, revised by the Author. Mozleys. 7d.

THE chief recommendations of this work are that it is written in very plain language, such as the most illiterate can understand, and that its warmth and earnestness make its readers interested in what is taught. At any rate, it has become a great favourite amongst the poor, especially in the country, and is rapidly superseding most other manuals. From the preface to this edition we learn that some alterations have been made, we believe at the suggestion of one of the bishops, so as to make some expressions coincide more strictly with those of the Prayer Book.

Essays; Biographical Critical, and Miscellaneous. By Peter Bayne, A.M. James Hogg & Sons. Post 8vo.

It is a very healthy sign of the times that so many collected volumes of essays are called for. But like several other writers of eminence, Mr. Bayne's claims were first fully recognized by our American brethren, and they reprinted his scattered pieces. The first essay, on Plato, discusses the characteristics of that master-mind of the ancient world, but in that we think the author scarcely rises to the height of his subject. The essays on Wellington and Napoleon afford Mr. Bayne more play for the display of those descriptive powers in which he excels. The essays which will excite most attention are those on Tennyson and his teachers, Mrs. Barrett Browning and the Brontë family, and that on the elementary principles of criticism. The last named, which is now for the first time published, we are disposed to consider the best in the volume; it is full of suggestive thought, and will at once commend itself to the attention of all persons of taste.

Darling's Cyclopædia Bibliographica.

THE second portion of this, the most important bibliographical work produced in this country since the time of Watt, is now completed, and forms a worthy companion to the first volume. It is a complete index of subjects connected with Holy Scripture and writers thereon. By turning to any particular text, we see at a glance the name of any and every author who has written upon it, from the time of the Fathers down to Dr. Cumming or Mr. Spurgeon—French, German, Italian, and Spanish commentators included. It is somewhat singular that, from the appearance of Cooke's "Preacher's Assistant," in 1783, down to the present, there should have been no work of a similar nature.

Mr. Darling informs us that he is about proceeding with a third volume, which will include liturgies, councils, canons, Church government, and doctrinal theology—a volume which will be even more valuable than the present one, indispensable even as this is to every clergyman's library, or indeed to every library of any pretension whatever.

The New Testament translated from Griesbach's Text. By Samuel Sharpe. Fourth edit. Fcap. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Hall, Virtue, & Co.

SEVERAL peculiarities appear in this translation. St. Matthew is headed "The New Covenant," and is called "The Good Tidings according to Matthew." The first chapter is arranged so that every one of the genealogies occupies a line, and all through the volume paragraphs are given instead of verses; the speeches are marked by inverted commas, the quotations are given in italics, and those portions which appear to be in poetry are printed in smaller type. As a curiosity, the work will be treasured by collectors, and the biblical student will like to see how Mr. Sharpe has rendered certain words; but as a version to supersede our present one, this possesses no claims. The price at which it is published is so low that we presume the author must be selling the work below cost price, in order to get it into circulation.

Dr. Bryce's Library Gazetteer. Griffin & Co.
Half-bound, morocco. 21s.

FEW studies have gone ahead so fast of late years as geographical science. When William was king it was by no means uncommon to find in a merchant's country-house the same map of the world as had served his grandfather, and the same geography or gazetteer as was in vogue when oil-lamps illuminated the Metropolis. Now all is changed. Our merchants and traders must, like all the rest of the world, keep on the move; they must know something about Japan, and no longer look for its capital under the head of Jedda, but turn to letter Y for its modern name. Invalids need not now go to Montpellier, under the impression of finding health there, but, by referring to Bryce, will learn that "the air is loaded with an imperceptible dust, which is very hurtful." Every place of any name is entered in this volume, its chief features explained, the population, manufactures, &c., stated, also the traffic with this country as far as it could be ascertained. A large number of woodcut illustrations are introduced, and there are ten capital folding maps. Prefixed is an article upon Physical Geography by the Editor. The work altogether extends to about 850 pages, and forms the most complete, compact, and comprehensive gazetteer yet published at a moderate price. We have examined several articles with some care, and find that the latest information has been embodied in them.

The Three Paths. By Herbert Grey, M.A. Hurst and Blackett. 2 vols., 21s.

THIS novel deserves attention rather for its promise than its fulfilment. A fine work it cannot be called, yet it contains elements that might make one: thought, pathos, humour, earnest feeling, and a gracefulness and felicitousness of expression more easily recognized than described. From certain internal evidences, we presume the author to be a very young man; and, perhaps, a good many of the faults of his book should be laid to the charge of his youth. But, though more excusable when so accounted for, these faults are not the less distasteful to his readers. We might, indeed, get reconciled to the very long and ultra-refined speculations which he is so fond of, and which, however good they may be in themselves, are aggravating when indulged in to a great extent in a work of fiction; but Mr. Grey's satirical pictures are more unpalatable. A caricature loses all its value when it is too much exaggerated; and if, as he intimates, his portraits are drawn from the life, we must confess they exhibit little appearance of the fact. His delineations of the Smithes, and his sketches of their "set," are, in our estimation, in bad taste; and, should he write a second work, which we hope he will do, we would recommend him to make his satire of a more subdued kind.

Reminiscences of the late Rev. W. Jay. By his Son, Cyrus Jay. Hamilton & Co. 7s. 6d.

IF Mr. Cyrus Jay had dropped these "Reminiscences" into his father's grave when he attended his funeral, it would have been no injury to the fair fame of his venerable parent, nor any loss to the public. The best, or rather the only good, portion of the book is not original, but consists of extracts from the "Autobiography" and writings

of Mr. Jay. What is original aims at humour, but is singularly destitute of good taste and proper feeling. Nothing, for instance, can be worse than the way in which the reminiscent speaks of Mr. Jay's second marriage, except it be his attempt to show that he amused his father, on his dying bed, by reading to him Dickens's story about two young pigs; and quoting the story, moreover, for the benefit of the purchasers of these *Reminiscences*!

Charnock's Local Etymology. Houlston & Wright. 8vo. 12s.

IN this volume the author has, at great pains, traced the sources whence a large number of the names of places are derived; or, rather, we should have said, the assumed sources of these names, because, while on the whole we are disposed to allow Mr. Charnock credit for giving the genuine derivations, there are some few in which we are inclined to think he is mistaken. Still it is a useful contribution to our literature in a department where we are perhaps most deficient, and we hope that the reception this volume meets with will be such as to induce the author to pursue his work, and think he would obtain more readers if he confined his researches to English and Scottish topography alone.

Gilbert Midhurst, M.P. By Charles F. Howard. 2 Vols. London: J. F. Hope.

THE tendency of these volumes, as far as we understand it, is to prove that there is nothing new in the world, and "nothing true." We must do the author the justice, however, to say that he does not hold the opinion that this state of things "don't signify." He seems to think that it does signify, and takes a sour pleasure in making the misfortune appear as vast and universal as possible. Seriously, "Gilbert Midhurst" is a very painful work, and the more so from the thought and ability which is exhibited in every page.

The book is made up of conversations, in which are debated all conceivable questions relating to religion, ethics, politics, professions, and things in general. The interlocutors in these dialogues are generally two out of a trio of individuals; either it is Truffles and Gilbert Midhurst who discuss, or Gilbert and his tutor, Montagu. Mr. Truffles' creed may be given in the author's own words: "Truffles affirmed that the House of Parliament was a mistake altogether so was the monarchy, and so also the Church; society, too, was quite out of joint." Mr. Montagu could make nothing more out of life than sleep, food, and cigars. Poor Gilbert is in a worse case still, and can make nothing out of life at all. From doubt of the earnest faith of his youth, he sinks, or rather rushes, into total unbelief; and from this time there remains for him the bitter misery of a spiritual blindness, through which the sufferer still preserves the memory of the lost light. The conclusion of the story, however, inspires a faint hope of some amelioration in his unhappy condition. Having lost his large fortune, we find him returned to his early home and his early love; and, in the absence of any special information to the contrary, we may please ourselves with the fancy that this return was followed by a recurrence to his early trust.

(For further Notices of Books see pp. 817—821.)

PUBLICATIONS OF THE MONTH.

The prices named are for cloth lettered, unless otherwise expressed:

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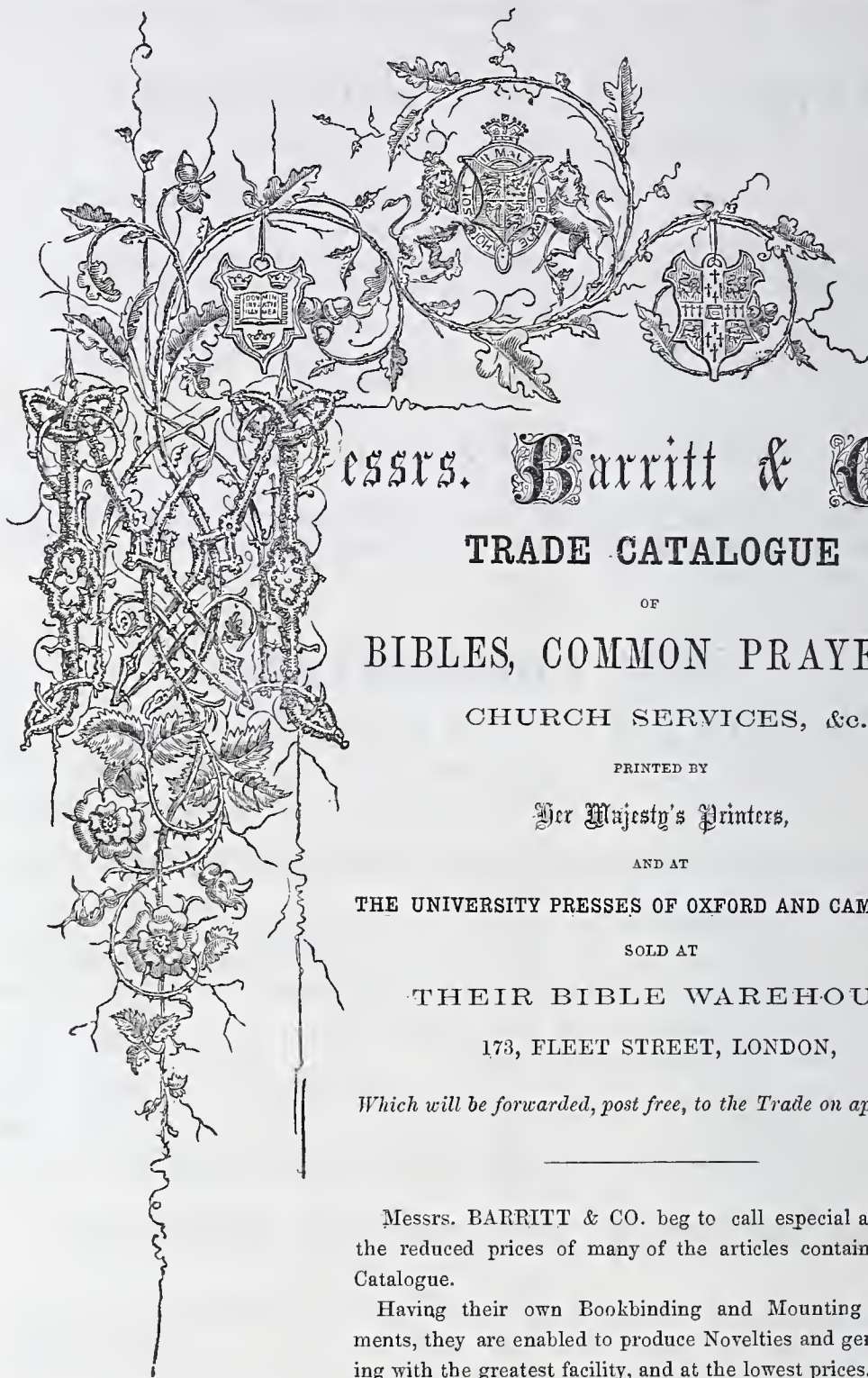
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"The Story of our Lives from Year to Year."—SHAKSPEARE.

ON SATURDAY, THE 30TH APRIL, 1859, WILL BE PUBLISHED,

PRICE TWOPENCE,

THE FIRST NUMBER OF

ALL THE YEAR ROUND:

A WEEKLY JOURNAL,

DESIGNED FOR

The Instruction and Entertainment of all Classes of Readers, and to assist in the
Discussion of the Social Questions of the Day.

Conducted by **CHARLES DICKENS.**

Published also in Monthly Parts, and in Half-Yearly Volumes,

AT THE OFFICE, 11, WELLINGTON STREET NORTH, STRAND, W.C.;

ALSO BY

CHAPMAN & HALL, 193, PICCADILLY, LONDON, W.

On Saturday, 28th May, 1859, MR. CHARLES DICKENS will CEASE TO CONDUCT
"HOUSEHOLD WORDS:" that Periodical will be DISCONTINUED, and its partner-
ship of Proprietors dissolved.

"The Story of our Lives from Year to Year."—SHAKSPEARE.

THE FIRST NUMBER, PRICE TWOPENCE, OF THE NEW WEEKLY JOURNAL,

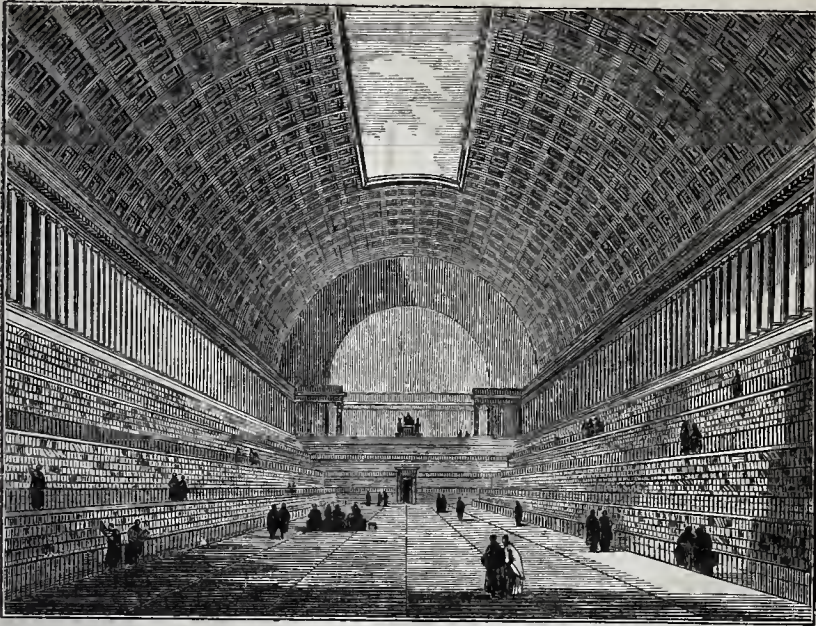
ALL THE YEAR ROUND,

WILL CONTAIN THE FIRST PART OF

A NEW STORY by CHARLES DICKENS.

To be continued from week to week until completed.

EDWARDS'S MEMOIRS OF LIBRARIES.



Memoirs of Libraries: Including a Handbook of Library Economy. By Edward Edwards. Trübner & Co. 2 vols. 8vo. 42s.

WHEN persons who do not very frequently travel are called upon to make a visit of some weeks' duration at a distance from their home, they are apt to get into a somewhat fidgetty state at the prospect of packing all they must take into a single carpet-bag: first they make up their minds that two or three coats, as many pairs of nether garments, and a proportionate supply of linen are indispensable, and they go on looking out, first one thing, and then another, until the selected articles amount to a small room full. It then occurs to them that one carpet-bag only is to go, and the work of selection has to be begun afresh. This is just our own case with these two portly volumes; how shall we cram what we intended to say into the one allotted page, and how shall we make a decent show with the contents of our small bag. After all the preparation we have made, we must just be content to indicate what will be found in the volumes, so that they who may feel an interest in the subject can explore for themselves.

The first volume commences with a view of the Libraries of the Ancients: that some existed in antediluvian times, Mr. Edwards gives us the assurance of that worthy old Carmelite, Louis Jacob, backed by the authority of Father Rocca; and in one hundred and fifty years after the Flood, we know that the all-engrossing topic of the day was to raise the Tower of Babel, which without doubt was intended as a library of reference; the scattering spoken of, means nothing more than the dispersion of the books, or as they were anciently called, tongues, because they spoke the writers' thoughts. This fact we believe is not generally known.

In illustration of the history of libraries between the time of the Flood and that of the Christian

era the author quotes a number of passages from Greek and Latin writers; but, with the exception of that at Alexandria, we suspect the repositories of the ancients were small and insignificant, and that it was not until the time of the Empire, when the Romans began to study Greek authors, that there was any general desire to accumulate books. Book II. gives us an insight into the libraries of the so-called dark ages. Books which found their way into monastic libraries were regarded as portions of the sacred furniture, persons were appointed to their care, and year after year they accumulated: if the principal loved books they accumulated fast; if he preferred good living to good books, the additions to the library were few; but still the library increased, and in England, at the time of the Reformation, the hoards of books were immense. We can readily forgive the iconoclasts of that day for all they did except for their destruction of books and MSS.; and if it would not be wrong to do so, we would be inclined to hope that they may not be allowed the use of books in the home their pious deeds has procured them. The description of these libraries is very interesting, and Mr. Edwards has included some notices of foreign monastic libraries, and given a catalogue of that of Christ Church at Canterbury. It is pleasing to think that many books and MSS. were rescued from the profane hands of the spoilers and may still be found in our collections. After noticing the royal, noble, and plebeian libraries of the middle ages, Mr. Edwards proceeds to Book III., in which he gives us the histories of the modern libraries of Great Britain and Ireland. Of these the most important is the library at the British Museum, which is composed of (1) The Royal Library, or libraries, being collections of books formed by various monarchs, which have at different times found their way to Great Russell Street. (2) The Cottonian Library in which will be found most of the MS. treasures

of our history. This collection was begun about the year 1588, augmented by Cotton's heir, and purchased for the nation in 1700. (3) The Harleian Library, collected by the Earl of Oxford: this also is rich in MSS. illustrative of English history. (4) The Sloane collection, purchased of the representatives of Sir Hans Sloane. Da Costa's donation of Hebrew books. The King's Tracts, collected by Thomasou, a bookseller, consisting of nearly 35,000 tracts published during the reigns of the Charleses. The Cracherode and Grenville collections, the Banksian collection, the Lansdowne MSS., the Hargrave collection, Dr. Burney's Library, the Arundelian MSS., and various other collections acquired either by gift or by purchase, or under the Copyright Act.

It may not be out of place here to say that under the management of Mr. Panizzi the library has assumed a position second to none, and that great praise is due to that gentleman not only for collecting the books, but for providing all necessary facilities for their perusal.

From the British Museum Library we pass on to the far-famed collection of Sir Thomas Bodley at Oxford, of which the following cut will give some notion. Born at Exeter in 1545, Sir Thomas early began a student's life, but exchanged that for one of diplomacy. During this time, however, he appears to have accumulated books, for, having married the widow of a rich Bristol merchant, he had ample means at his disposal. He ransacked the shops of London, Paris, Venice, Rome, and Florence, and various cities of Spain and Germany, and entered into an agreement with the Stationers' Company for the supply of new books. All these he left to the University of Oxford, with an estate for the purpose of their keeping, repairs, and additions. This noble library has since been augmented by considerable additions from collections made by John Selden, Rabbi Oppenheim, Richard Gough, Francis Douce and others, besides numerous purchases every year, and, like the British Museum, the Library of Advocates at Edinburgh, the Trinity College,



BODLEIAN LIBRARY, OXFORD.

Dublin, and the Cambridge University Library, this is entitled to one copy of every work published in the United Kingdom.

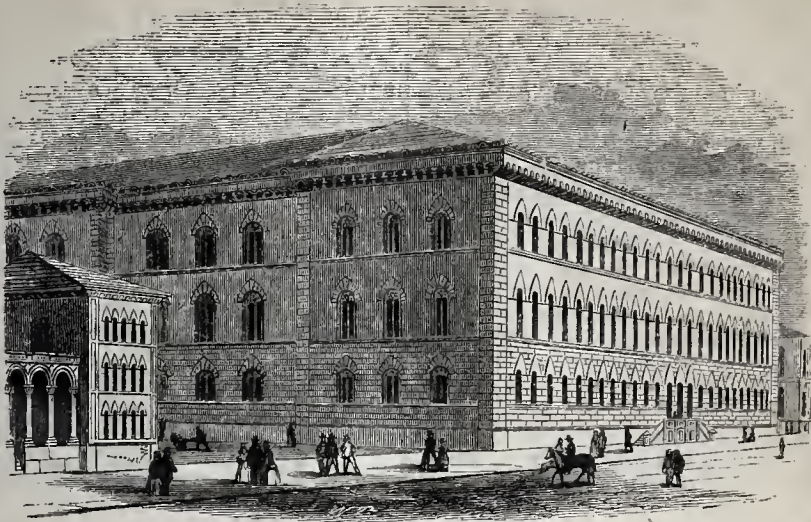
We next come to the smaller libraries of Oxford. Of these the most important is the Radcliffe. Dr. Radcliffe, who was a physician of the time of Queen Anne, and knew little or nothing about books, yet he founded and endowed this noble depository. The library is a fine building, and, much to the disgust of the Goths, is justly regarded as one of the ornaments of the city; but it is in many respects unfit for the purpose contemplated. No one visits it except from curiosity, and we think all well-wishers would like to see the collection transferred to the Bodleian, and that building enlarged. The Taylor Library, those of Queen's and All Souls, also deserve mention.

Our wallet is now nearly filled, and yet we have not been able to get through the first volume, the remaining contents of which are, the Cambridge

Libraries major and minor, the Chetham Library, Manchester; the Cathedral Libraries, that at Lambeth, those of the Inns of Court; Municipal Libraries, and those scattered through various parishes in the country. Following this, we have two chapters on the history and working of the Public Libraries Act. The volume also contains nine plates and a number of woodcuts.

We now reach the second volume, but can only take a very superficial glance at the contents. First, we have an account of the Edinburgh Libraries, and are by no means satisfied that that of the Library of Advocates is the best managed in the world. Next chapter tells us of the Libraries of the universities and towns of Scotland; then the Irish Libraries; next come the minor libraries of London; British private libraries, and private libraries that have been dispersed.

Book III. takes us to the United States, where we travel amongst collegiate, state, subscription, town, and proprietary libraries, and spend a con-



ROYAL LIBRARY, MUNICH.

siderable time at the Smithsonian Institution. Coming back to the Old World, we pass on to the Continent, and first take a glance at the Imperial Library, rich in the spoils of centuries, and which boasts of nearly a million volumes. The minor libraries of Paris, the provincial libraries of France, the libraries of Italy, the royal and metropolitan libraries of Germany, each occupy a separate chapter, as also do those of Spain and Portugal, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, the Slave nations, and Holland and Belgium. The Royal Library at Munich, of which an engraving heads this page, was built by the late King Lewis I., and contains, some say 400,000, and others 800,000 volumes, no one apparently knowing the correct number. In going through these volumes, one thing strikes us as somewhat singular—namely, that Oxford, which has the reputation of being half a century behind the rest of the world, should be the only place where we find a complete catalogue of its literary treasures. There is the Bodleian Catalogue of printed books, in four volumes, folio; separate catalogues of Gough's, Malone's, and Douce's collections—sixteen separate publications. We wish we could say something like this of the British Museum.

Proceeding to the second portion of this volume, we arrive at Library Economics, which treat of book-collecting, buildings, fittings, furniture; and Book III., which treats of catalogues and cataloguing. Here Mr. Edwards appears to be quite in his element, and his remarks will be fully appreciated by all who, like himself, have been engaged in the work. Similar to this is Book IV., which treats of Library Management and Rules, with remarks on binding, reading-rooms, &c.

Of the engraving at the head of this article, which was designed by M. Horeau for the Imperial Library of France, Mr. Edwards says, with truth, there is unquestionable grandeur in the design of marshalling such an assemblage of books in one vast hall; and we agree with him in thinking it would be found better adapted to the regions of cloud-land.

We now take leave of these volumes, feeling that we have given a very imperfect indication of

their contents, and strongly recommend them to the consideration of all persons connected with, or interested in, libraries public or private, because they contain a vast quantity of information never before collected, and much that would be sought for in vain elsewhere.

Kane's Wanderings of an Artist among the Indians of North America. Longmans. 8vo, 21s.

MR. PAUL KANE is a native Canadian artist, who was seized with a determination to devote his talents to painting a series of pictures illustrative of the North American Indians and scenery; but as the face of the red man has long ago disappeared from the haunts now usurped by civilization, it is necessary for those who would desire to study the manners and customs of the aborigines, to undertake many a perilous journey through the pathless forest to find them. Mr. Kane undertook to traverse that vast tract of country bordering on the great chain of American lakes, the Red River settlements, the valley of the Saskatchewan, and its boundless prairies, through which it is proposed to carry the great railway connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. He crossed the Rocky Mountains, descended to Columbia river, to Oregon, visited Puget's Sound, and Vancouver's island. The principal object of this undertaking was to sketch pictures of the principal chiefs and their original costumes, to illustrate their manners and customs, and to represent the scenery of an almost unknown country. The book consists of the notes and memoranda taken on the journey. It abounds in incident, of moving accidents by flood and field, with many curious anecdotes and legends picked up among the various tribes he visited. There is the great charm of novelty about all the author describes and narrates. The illustrations are portraits of many of the most notable of the aborigines, with other illustrations, printed in colours, besides woodcuts of interesting objects, and a map of the route, forming, altogether, a very attractive volume, which may properly rank beside those of Schoolcraft and Catlin, which latter it much resembles in its principal features.

Irish Melodies. With Symphonies and Accompaniments by Sir John Stevenson, and Characteristic Words by Thomas Moore. A New Edition, edited by J. W. Glover. Dublin: James Duffy.

To say anything in praise of the *Irish Melodies*, or even in praise of the words which Tom Moore wedded to them, would be like gilding refined gold—a task alike uncalled-for and repulsive. We must therefore be content to say that this elegant volume contains eighty-seven melodies, with words—all the choicest of Moore's melodies—harmonized by Sir John Stevenson, and that this edition alone possesses the advantage of having the music with every verse of the song instead of only the first verse, and the instrumental part also in full. Mr. Glover has ventured upon some trifling alterations in that charming piece, "The Last Rose of Summer;" and at the end of the song, "Where's the slave so lowly?" has added the dirge sung at the Dublin commemoration of Moore. The volume also contains ten pieces of pianoforte music without words. Altogether, the volume contains nearly 350 pages, and is issued in a handsome cloth gilt binding with gilt edges, for 12s. 6d.

Master and Pupil. A Tale. By Mrs. Mackenzie Daniel. Author of "My Sister Minnie," "Old Maid of the Family," &c. Newby.

THE evangelical tone of this novel will be a passport for it into a more sober circle of readers than the ordinary patrons of the circulating library. The story details the experiences of a somewhat chequered life, and is written in the form of an autobiography, the narrator being the pupil of the title, a young lady who, after having laboured during a large portion of her existence under the imputation of having no heart at all, at last loses the said wanting article to the master and hero of the book, Mr. Richard Errol, Junr.

"Master and Pupil" is a very unaffected story. The author has not aimed at any particular originality either of design or execution, but has been content to paint quiet pictures of quiet scenes and people. The characters are neither superhumanly perfect nor superhumanly iniquitous, but are flesh-and-blood individuals such as one meets with, or might meet with, every day. The Errols especially have a strong reality about them; the substantial qualities represented as belonging, more or less, to all of them, are, we believe, characteristic of the earnest and intelligent dissenting family. Effie, too, with her great trial and triumph, will win true sympathy. The history of her life and death is told with a genuine feeling, to which the reader's tears, at least, will bear testimony. In a word, "Master and Pupil" has a good deal of merit of an unobtrusive kind.

Disraeli's Amenities of Literature. Routledge. 2 vols. 9s.

At the end of a short notice, in our last BOOKSELLER, of the miscellaneous writings of Mr. Disraeli, we promised to complete our article this month by a few remarks on a work which had not reached us at the time we went to press. But the two volumes of the "Amenities of Literature" are now added to the other works in this republication, and worthily complete the series.

In all the important features of a literary work—in choice of subject, in ripeness of learning, in cast of thought, and in manner of composition—the "Amenities of Literature" are manifestly of one family with the interesting volumes which we have already noticed. There is, too, as great a diversity of matters treated of in the "Amenities" as in either the "Curiosities of Literature," or the "Calamities and Quarrels of Authors;" but there is this important distinction in the case of the work before us, that the separate articles, various and independent as they undoubtedly are, are yet connected, in a manner, by a common purpose, which they all contribute to. They are, in fact, the precious fragments which had been prepared for that great undertaking of a history of our English literature, which was unhappily arrested by the author's loss of sight. "The papers in this collection," said Mr. Disraeli, "are a portion of my projected history."

And this portion bears eloquent witness to the loss which the public has sustained from the author's inability to accomplish his design. Executed on the scale and in the manner of these "Amenities," the projected history would have been a noble work. In every paper in the collection there is a manifestation of the ample scholarship, the calm and clear judgment, and the great critical sagacity by which Mr. Disraeli was so eminently qualified for the task by which his studies had been occupied for many years. There is also, in almost every paper, some new and interesting novelty of thought elicited from old themes, or some new and interesting light on memorable books and men struck out from old and unfamiliar sources. Under the disadvantage of appearing in a disconnected state, these dissertations are, nevertheless, on all the subjects they refer to, historical sketches of our literary growth and progress, of which the merit and the value are both rare and great.

We recommend the series which is concluded by these "Amenities," as one of the most delightful sets of books with which the study or the drawing-room can be adorned. The scholar will find in it many genial glimpses of rich and curious learning, whilst to the idle reader it will be, in all moods, an inexhaustible source of deep and rational entertainment.

Bamford's Life of a Radical. New edition. Manchester: Abel Heywood.

THIS is one of that interesting class of books which gives us the history of the lower orders, written by one of themselves. The period treated of is that previous to the passing of the Reform Bill, when the majority of the people, being unrepresented, complained in terms neither polite nor likely to be misunderstood. The policy of the day was to put down such expressions of feeling by brute force, and Bamford became a victim. He was several times imprisoned, and he passed through a variety of stirring scenes, which are related with all the clearness of one of De Foë's narratives. Simply as an amusing book, the *Life* will be read with avidity; but to those who are interested in the history of the working classes, and to the politician, it presents such a means of becoming acquainted with genuine operative life as can rarely be found in books. Not the least interesting portion of the volume is the history of its being got into print.

Men Who have Risen. A Book for Boys. James Hogg & Sons. Fcap. 8vo.

PERHAPS the story which has been most useful to boys for several hundred years, is that of Dick Whittington, who by his perseverance and industry thrice became Lord Mayor of London. Boys like to hear of men who have risen, believing that they likewise may do the same. It was therefore a good notion to put together the history of the Peel family, Stephenson of railway fame, Hutton,

the Bookseller, and Hugh Miller the Geologist, with some ten others, in the attractive form which the editor of this volume has done. The first relation is that of the Peel family, in which we are carried back to the days of hand-spinning, and see the gradual rise of the cotton manufacture. Following this is the story of the rise of the Rothschilds: the founder of this family, Moses Rothschild, was a small banker of Frankfort, with whom the Prince of Hesse for safety deposited a large sum of money. Being visited by



"He did not attempt to conceal his own property. He suffered them to carry it all off,"

the French revolutionary army, which was then actively engaged in searching for the "rights of man," Moses allowed them to strip him of all his own property, and after their departure again proceeded with his business. He now dug up the Prince's money, which, being hid in his garden, was overlooked by the French, and made such judicious use of this as to amass a large fortune and to pave the way for the still larger ones of his family. Amongst the worthies commemorated in

this volume is Lord Eldon, whose example, striking as it is, is one that will be new to youth. A more readable volume, or one that will be more acceptable than this to schoolboys generally, will scarcely be found, and we know of none that we would more strongly recommend for school or village libraries, or for the perusal of working men; for like all really good children's books, this is just as interesting to the adult as to the young.

The Bertrams. A Novel. By Anthony Trollope, Author of "Barchester Towers," &c. Chapman & Hall. 3 vols. 31s.

OF course Mr. Trollope's new novel will be popular; but if he had written with less scrupulous conscientiousness, it would, probably, have been more popular. The novelist who depicts the events and characters of real life exactly as he finds them, generally runs the hazard of having his work voted unsatisfactory. It is true that in this enlightened age we do not allow any violent liberties to be taken with nature, but still we do not think our portraits any the worse likenesses for being a little flattered. Mr. Trollope does not condescend to humour the weaknesses of his sitters; he does not, indeed, display any malicious tendency to exaggerate defects, but he will not soften them, nor will he brighten charms; but gives to blemishes and beauties each their actual prominence—

"Virtuous and vicious every man must be,
Few in the extreme, but all in the degree."

The most conspicuous actors upon Mr. Trollope's stage are George Bertram and his cousin, Caroline Waddington. Bertram is a young man of fine intellect, deep and honest feeling, but infirm purpose. Caroline's character is, in many respects, just the reverse of this. She has some feeling, but she has more decision; her pride and ambition are great, and all sensibilities have to give in to these passions. By her advice, George Bertram is persuaded, despite his convictions and lofty aspirations, to relinquish his intention of entering the Church, and to betake himself to the profession of the Law, from which his conscience recoils; and, as a compensation for this sacrifice, she is induced to promise him her hand. George works hard at his law-books, but pleads very earnestly that the marriage shall not be deferred until he is called to the Bar. He has an allowance of two hundred a year from his rich old uncle, who is also Caroline's grandfather, and Caroline has a small fortune; the two incomes, he contends, will be sufficient to supply all reasonable wants, or, should they not be, he will make up the deficiency by literature. But Caroline relentlessly refuses to listen to his proposals; she will not consent that the marriage shall take place one day before he is called. George is deeply hurt and discouraged; he becomes irritable and careless, neglects his studies, and occupies his time in unworthy pleasures, and in writing a book which had much better have been unwritten. Between him and Caroline affairs soon begin to assume a very dark aspect. He judges her more harshly than she deserves, and she is haughty, unyielding, and injudicious. The end of all is that their engagement is by mutual agreement broken off, and that she unites herself to a friend of his, a worldly, callous man, whom she does not love, but who is a baronet and solicitor-general. The marriage, of course, turns out unhappy. For some time after it has taken place, Bertram carefully avoids meeting the bride, but at length, by her husband's express desire, he dines at the house. The first visit is enough to prove to him that he should not go again; but, ever wanting in resolution, he does go again, and yet again. Finally, however, he makes up his mind to leave England; but before

his departure he has an interview with Caroline, which is reported to her husband, and at which the latter is, not unreasonably, incensed. The husband and wife have a violent quarrel, and she, true to her character of proud determination, leaves him, and will, under no consideration be tempted to return. She goes to her grandfather, and takes up her residence with him.

When George comes back to England, he finds her there, and his uncle lying upon his death-bed. The old man dies; and when his will is opened, it is found that his great fortune is to be expended in erecting and endowing a public institution. George had indulged no avaricious hopes, but Caroline's husband, who has been building all along upon the prospect of his wife being her grandfather's heir, and who has incurred large liabilities upon the strength of his expectations, is frantic with disappointment, and commits suicide. Perhaps the rest of the story may be guessed; but if George and Caroline are, in the end, blessed with more happiness than seems their due, they certainly have received full measure of suffering.

There are a number of personages in the story that we have not even alluded to; but for this, as well as other shortcomings in our notice, our limited space must be our excuse.

Andrews' History of British Journalism. Bentley. 2 vols. 21s.

AT once a copious, a difficult, and we may say, a delicate, if not a dangerous subject to handle. Mr. Andrews has acquitted himself of his task in a very laudable manner; for he has got together a great deal of information, he has avoided the besetting errors of prejudice and partiality, and he has throughout his own comments spoken with sound judgement and discretion on the topics brought under his notice. Amid such a collection of materials we have observed a very few and unimportant mistakes, a very few omissions, and a very few (as we think) not altogether tenable opinions. Indeed, there are so few of any of these blemishes, that we consider it unnecessary to particularize them. They do not amount to so much as the author has pointed out in his predecessor, Mr. Knight Hunt's "Fourth Estate;" and in the next edition, which its merits distinctly entitle the work to have called for, they may be amended with a few strokes of the pen.

Here and There in London. By J. Ewing Ritchie. Tweedie. Fcap. 8vo.

MR. RITCHIE is a very amusing writer if not a very correct one, and this volume of sketches will convey a good deal of information to persons who are never likely to visit the scenes therein depicted. "The Penny Gaff" describes a low-life theatre. "Portland Place" gives an account of the social evil; and under the heads of "Rag Fair," "The Derby," "Mark Lane," &c. &c., even the Londoner will learn much that is new. The last chapter of all—"Paternoster Row"—makes even ourselves acquainted with practices and profits hitherto unknown; even the paragraph relating to the subscribing of a new book affords room for the display of Mr. Ritchie's playful imagination.



Scottish Ballads and Songs. Edinburgh. T. G. Stevenson. Fcap 8vo. 10s. 6d.

THE title page of this volume does not afford us much information, and the price is such as will deter many persons from purchasing it, yet it is one of those books which every collector or lover of ballads would desire to possess if he knew its contents. Both the editor, Mr. James Maidment, and the publisher, we think, are wrong in the course they have pursued, for such is the growing taste of the public for old-world literature, that thousands of purchasers may be found amongst middle-class buyers who now purchase books that formerly only found their way into the libraries of the few. But two hundred and fifty copies, Mr. Stevenson tells us, have been printed; hence the high price set upon the collection, which we will now endeavour to describe. First, we have an introduction giving some account of these ballads, and of the modern manufacture of others which have passed for ancient, even amongst persons who should have known better. Then come sixty ballads of various ages, with a lucid introduction to each, stating all that is known respecting it. "Maggie Lauder," or "Lauther," is now for the first time printed in a complete state, four additional verses being given. From these it will be satisfactory to many readers to learn that the interesting personage, whose name is commemorated, had a bairn some time after the conversation with Rob, and that when Rob next visited Anster town, Maggie held further converse with him, and was made a respectable woman. One which the editor justly calls an "exceedingly pretty ballad" we do not remember to have met with before; it is called the "Dragoon and Peggy." The volume is one that will be eagerly sought after by collectors, and doubtless will be classed among the scarce books of which Mr. Stevenson delights to clutch so many—but Wilfu' men maun gang their ain gait.

Moore's Irish Melodies. Dublin, Duffy. 32mo, 6d.

NEARLY one hundred of Moore's best Songs, neatly printed and bound in cloth boards, with gilt edges, for 6d. If our neighbours go on at this cheap rate, we shall soon have English publishers crying out for a repeal of the Union. Instead of 250 copies, as of Mr. Maidment's Ballads, the publisher of this has printed 50,000, and already disposed of nearly half the number.

Chevreul on Colour. New Edition. With Illustrations, printed in colours. Routledge & Co. 5s.

THE popularity of the previous issues of the work has led to the production of this illustrated edition, which will prove of the greatest utility to manufacturers and others requiring a knowledge of the harmony of colours. The value of this knowledge cannot be too highly estimated, for it is well known that when an attractive pattern is issued by a calico-printer, it is sure "to take," and realize a little fortune. We have heard that Mr. Cohden made over five thousand pounds by one pattern, composed of a good contrast of blue and orange colours. This pattern might have been skilfully designed, but it is more than probable that the effect was due to imitation or accident.

Most of our trades and manufactures require a knowledge of the laws of harmonious colouring; and that this want is generally felt and recognized is proved by the large sale books professing to treat of this subject have met with. But the works of all previous writers are merely empirical; they do not offer a single experimental proof to sustain their puerile dogmatism, and no more elucidate the science of colouring than books on Alchemy and Astrology teach Chemistry and Astronomy. They contain showy diagrams, it is true, which may beguile the ignorant for a time, but are not of the least practical value. The diagrams to this new edition of Chevreul are constructed in conformity with the laws of nature: they really exhibit the effect upon the eye, of the juxtaposition of different colours; and when once the principles by which they operate are understood, they become as useful and indispensable to the artist or manufacturer as the multiplication table to the accountant. When the next Great Exhibition is held in 1861, it is to be hoped our manufacturers will be able to show that they have improved the interval by acquiring a knowledge of the laws of colouring; and that our fabrics, our furniture, our decorations, and even our clothing, will exhibit that degree of taste for which our continental neighbours are so celebrated—that taste being not merely a thing of perception, but the result of working in obedience to the laws laid down by M. Chevreul.

Since the first edition of this work was published in this country, we have perceived a gradual improvement taking place in many branches of art-manufacture, particularly in paper-hangings and interior decoration; and the more facilities abound for studying the principles laid down by M. Chevreul, the greater will be the improvement that follows. It would scarcely be possible to enumerate the various arts and trades to which this little volume recommends itself; but, besides the artist, we may mention the decorator, the calico-printer, the carpet-weaver, the paper-stainer, the architect, the landscape-gardener, and the milliner. To each of these this book will be equivalent to a new sense or faculty, by which they may put money in their purses.

Love Letters of Eminent Persons. Fcap. 8vo. W. Lay.

A PLEASING collection of the hearts' effusions of the most fervent lovers of modern times, from Heloise to Robert Burns. It includes, among

many others, the love-letters of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, Lord Grey and Lady Berkeley, Sterne, Pope, Swift, Mrs. Piozzi, Lord Nelson, Napoleon and Josephine, the Duke of Sussex, Bettine and Goethe, Klopstock and Meta, Mademoiselle de Espinasse, Ninon de l'Enclos, and the famous Portuguese Nun. From them we perceive that the language of passion is the same in all countries, though in the power of expressing it the French bear the palm. This book affords a curious insight into human nature; the "universal passion" has many phases, of which Sterne exhibits the one extreme and Julie de Espinasse the other. The practical good sense and straightforwardness of the English is well represented by Lady Mary; German idealty by Bettine; Southern fervour by the unhappy Portuguese Nun, who is second only to the *spirituelle* Julie. This book will soon find its way into every lover's possession; there is no shade of feeling to which the human heart is subject but finds its expression in these pages, and as models of composition they are unexceptionable.

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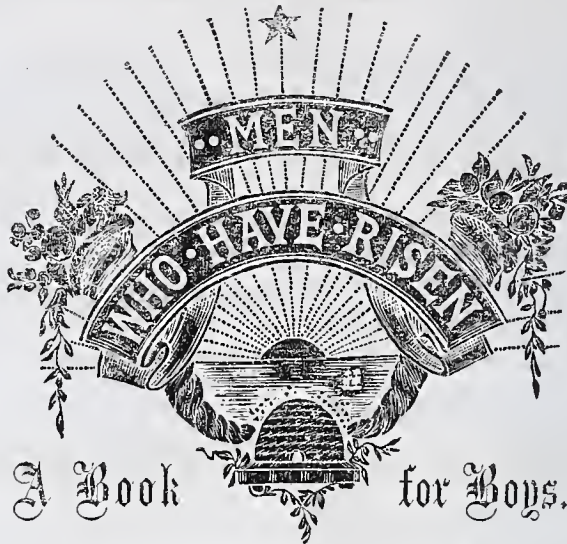
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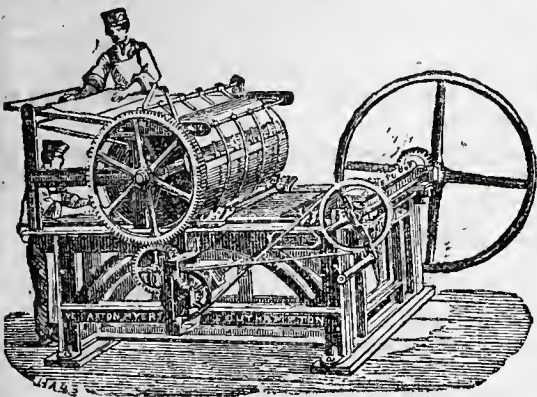
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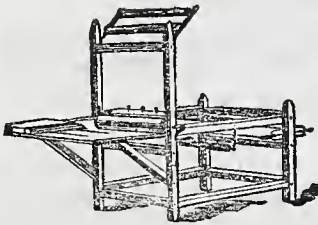
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